



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



United States
National Commission for UNESCO

**Meeting Minutes -
2008 Annual Meeting
of the
U.S. National Commission for UNESCO**

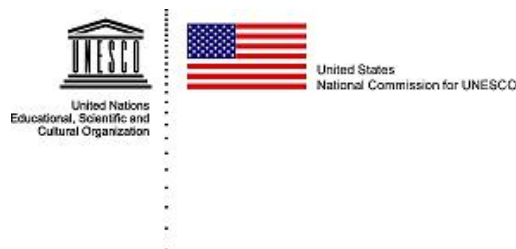
May 19 and May 20, 2008

**Georgetown University Marriott
3800 Reservoir Road, NW
Washington, DC 20057**

Meeting Minutes – 2008 Annual Meeting of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

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I. Executive Summary of the 2008 Annual Meeting Recommendations

The May 2008 Annual Meeting of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO resulted in a wide range of recommendations for the State Department to consider. Recommendations were proposed by the five committees of the Commission: Education, Natural Sciences and Engineering, Social and Human Sciences, Culture, and Communication and Information, as well as, sessions on Best Practices & the Future Composition of the U.S. National Commission, and The UNESCO Draft Program & Budget 2010-2011. This summary provides an overview of the recommendations.

UNDERLYING THEMES

Capacity building: All sectors continue to emphasize the importance of encouraging UNESCO to increase capacity building, and the importance of the United States in providing its expertise in aiding with capacity building.

Transparency & accountability: UNESCO has made great strides towards improving transparency, accountability within the organization; and throughout, the organization has become increasingly aware of the importance of good management. However, much remains to be done in each sector.

Partnerships, especially in-country: Partnerships at many levels—public, private, and federal, local—are encouraged for each sector. Though UNESCO expresses an interest in improving its partnerships around the world, the United States Government (USG) and the U.S. National Commission should encourage a more targeted and consistent approach.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- Taking into consideration the Dakar Framework for Action:
 - UNESCO should encourage countries to improve data collection capacities, strengthen the link between education and job creation, and increase education initiatives based on goals measured by the EFA Global Monitoring Report.

- The U.S., with the assistance of the continued engagement of Commissioners, should share models in early childhood education and adult literacy that may be applicable to other countries.
- Promote partnerships: public-private partnerships to leverage NGO funding for education, and consider increased UNESCO staff capacity in this area.
- Encourage UNESCO to strengthen field offices in education, specifically focusing on teacher training.
- In rebuilding education systems, identify in-country NGOs that could encourage field office assistance; increase transparency of funding streams within these countries.
- U.S. should develop a mechanism for input in the planning of the World Conference on Higher Education that includes the National Commission, the higher education community, and other relevant partners.

NATURAL SCIENCES & ENGINEERING COMMITTEE

- International Hydrological Program (IHP):
 - Accept the U.S. IHP proposed implementation plan for engaging with UNESCO IHP.
 - Encourage U.S. IHP to seek support to enable: capacity building, technology transfer, committee operations.
 - Acknowledge U.S. engagement in the global water community via the June Water Forum and the December Irvine meeting.
 - Endeavour to run and be elected to the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP during 35th General Conference.
- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC):
 - Elevate Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) as a core program of IOC.
 - Encourage IOC to focus capacity building efforts on coastal ocean observation, especially in developing countries.
 - Provide opportunities for U.S. IOC to comment on papers regarding UNESCO's climate change strategy.
 - Recruit highly qualified AmCits to apply to serve as the next Executive Secretary of the IOC.
- USG should consider full engagement with the Man & the Biosphere program.
- Capacity Building: the USG should register its grave disappointment in the lack of progress in the "creation of a Cross-Sectoral Program in Technical Capacity Building."
- UNESCO task force should engage the original Review Committee of Major Programs II and III in the implementation and periodic recording process.

SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES COMMITTEE

- UNESCO must fully involve Member States in its decisions:

- Engagement and approval of UNESCO Member States in the participation, development, and implementation of the Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City, and other human rights instruments.
 - COMEST and other Category V advisory committees should adhere to existing rules permitting Member State reps to attend all of their meetings.
 - Though supportive of UNESCO's promotion and dissemination of the principles within the Universal Declaration on Bioethics & Human Rights, the USG should continue to object to UNESCO Secretariat or advisory committees interpreting the Declaration's provisions.
- USG should cooperate with UNESCO Social & Human Sciences Sector for the training of national bioethics committees in countries requesting assistance, by leveraging the expertise of the National Commission and relevant institutions.

CULTURE COMMITTEE

- Commissioners should actively support the search for a strong AmCit candidate for the vacant D1 management position at the World Heritage Center.
- USG should do everything possible to maintain the credibility of the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage program.
- USG should consider its position on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention.
- Protection and sharing of culture and antiquities:
 - Encourage UNESCO to study the potential of improved and expanded legal markets in reducing looting, theft, and illegal markets.
 - UNESCO should encourage source nations to protect antiquities and sites, and promote capacity building to this end.
 - UNESCO should study alternatives (such as long term loans and exchanges) for the sharing of cultural property among all nations without transfer of ownership.
- Sustainable tourism:
 - Encourage the DG to enhance staffing and funding for a World Heritage Center sustainable tourism section.
 - Encourage support of the World Heritage Center's advisory bodies in supporting sustainable tourism best practices.
 - UNESCO should study the impact of tourism on cultural and natural heritage, then compile and disseminate a best practices compendium.
- UNESCO should strengthen the sharing of expertise with developing country museums to help enhance partnerships among museums, and build their capacities.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE

- Encourage full implementation of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- UNESCO should support unimpeded use of the Internet as a means to ensure freedom of the press and the free flow of information.

- Continue to encourage UNESCO's support for the World Digital Library.
- USG should continue to monitor the appropriate role for UNESCO regarding the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).
- As UNESCO addresses the issue of safety of journalists, the U.S. should encourage UNESCO to take into account all factors that impede a journalist's ability to carry out his/her role that is the foundation for a free society.
- International Program for the Development of Communication (IPDC):
 - Create a U.S. National Commission subcommittee to review and revise the IPDC's Official Project Form, paying particular attention to management sustainability and evaluation of each project.
 - IPDC should not assess an overhead fee for program funding; however if assessed, the fee should be applied to that program.

UNESCO DRAFT PROGRAM & BUDGET 2010-2011: Region I NatComm Consultations

- All Program Priorities should be specific and clearly linked to specific goals, metrics and progress in programs.
- Recommended edits to the Sectoral Priorities and Major Lines of Action are included in bold and brackets in the attached document. Included:
 - **Education** sections should take into account: civil society, recommended best practices, and the encouragement of public and private sector efforts.
 - **Natural Science** sections should include references to water resources, including drinking water.
 - **Social & Human Science** edits ensure the recognition of only existing and universally agreed upon principles, practices, and norms, in both the Priorities section and the MLA section.
 - **Culture** MLA should emphasize the protection against illicit trafficking of cultural objects and the appropriate interchange.
 - **Communication & Information** MLAs should include mention of freedom of the press, safety for the press, and implementation of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

FUTURE COMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION & COMMISSION BEST PRACTICES

- Current commissioners will continue to serve as a valuable resource to the USG and the Permanent Delegation, offering continuity during Administration transition
 - Increased engagement on the formation of delegations
 - Serving as a large recruiting agency or network for UNESCO vacancies
 - Sharing information and resources
 - U.S. National Commission Secretariat should continue to use subcommittees as an effective mechanism to blend interaction between committees and disciplines; continue to use non-member advisors, as appointed by the Executive Director, as a resource to subcommittees

- Composition:
 - Continue to reflect the issues and challenges UNESCO is taking on, as well as priorities of the USG; should not be strictly tied to any mathematical formula—within legal constraints
 - Reappointments should take into account involvement and active working support of the Commission.
 - Commission members should assist with recommendations of state and local individuals, which are the positions that have been most difficult to fill.
 - Future membership expertise ideas include: Youth/Students, Business Management, Program Evaluation, International Relief (as related to UNESCO mandate), Grassroots Expertise, Education Research, Environmental Protection (as related to U.S. IHP)
- Consider establishing an orientation for new members to help ensure continuity and productive membership.
- Prior to each Annual Meeting, members should receive feedback on the status of the previous years' recommendations.

II. Meeting Agenda



AGENDA OVERVIEW

Day One

Monday, May 19, 2008

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 8:00 a.m. | Commissioner Breakfast and Registration |
| 9:00 a.m. | Opening Plenary Session |
| 10:15 a.m. | Break |
| 10:30 a.m. | Plenary Panel Discussion |
| 12:00 p.m. | Commissioners' Luncheon |
| 2:00 p.m. | Committee Breakout Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Education▪ Natural Sciences and Engineering▪ Social and Human Sciences▪ Culture▪ Communications and Information |
| 4: 30 p.m. | Day 1 Concludes |

Day Two

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 9:15 a.m. | Thematic Breakout Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ UNESCO Draft Program and Budget 2010-2011: Region I National Commission Consultations and the UNESCO Questionnaire▪ Future Composition of the U.S. National Commission and Best Practices |
|-----------|--|

10:30 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	Plenary Session
11:30 a.m.	Break -- Commissioner's Luncheon
1:00 p.m.	Concluding Plenary Session
2:30 p.m.	Conference Concludes



**U.S. National Commission for UNESCO
Annual Meeting 2008**

DETAILED AGENDA

Day One

Monday, May 19, 2008

- 8:00 a.m. **Commissioners' Continental Breakfast and Registration in West Lobby by the Business Center**
- 9:00 a.m. **Opening Plenary Session in Salon B/G**
- Call to Order and National Commission Address:
Mrs. Susanna Connaughton, Executive Director, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO
 - The U.S. in International Organizations:
Mr. James Warlick, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of International Organization Affairs
 - Ambassador's Address:
The Honorable Louise V. Oliver, U.S. Permanent Representative to UNESCO
- 10:15 a.m. **Break; Refreshments in West Lobby**
- 10:30 a.m. **Plenary Session in Salon B/G**
- Panel Discussion with Question and Answer Session:

 Moderator:
 - **Mr. James Warlick**, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of International Organization Affairs
 Panelists:

- **The Honorable Louise V. Oliver**, U.S. Permanent Representative to UNESCO
- **Mrs. Susanna Connaughton**, Executive Director, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO
- **Mrs. Kelly Siekman**, Acting Office Director, Office of UNESCO Affairs, Bureau of International Organization Affairs

11:30 a.m. **Break**

12:00 p.m. **Commissioners' Luncheon in Salon F/H**

- Lunch Address/Presentation:
Energy Security and Climate Change
The Honorable James Connaughton, Chairman, White House Council on Environmental Quality

1:30 p.m. **Break**

2:00 p.m. **Afternoon Breakout Session:**
See following pages for Committee Breakout details

4:30 p.m. **Committee Breakout Sessions and Day 1 Concludes**

2:00 p.m.

Afternoon Breakout Session:
EDUCATION

Location: Salon C

Coordinated by **Dr. John J. DeGioia**, President, Georgetown University; Chairman, Committee on Education, U.S. National Commission on UNESCO

Staffed by **Ms. Emily Spencer**, Office of UNESCO Affairs, U.S. Department of State

- Welcome and Introductions
 - **Dr. John J. DeGioia**, President, Georgetown University; Chairman, Committee on Education, U.S. National Commission on UNESCO
- The Dakar Framework – Progress and Priorities: Perspectives on Building Quality Education Opportunities Around the World
 - **Dr. Phyllis Magrab**, Director, Georgetown Center for Child and Human Development; UNESCO Chair on *Achieving the Promise of EFA: A Focus on Literacy and Sustainable Development*
 - **Dr. Joseph Carney**, Director, Office of Education, U.S. Agency for International Development
 - **Dr. John Hatch**, Basic Education Officer, Office of Education, U.S. Agency for International Development
- Comments and Questions from Commissioners
- U.S. Perspective on Issues for the World Conference on Higher Education + 10
 - **Dr. Madeleine Green**, Vice-President, International Initiatives, American Council on Education; member, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO
 - **Mr. Gary Bittner**, Education Program Specialist, U.S. Agency for International Development
- Comments and Questions from Commissioners
- Commissioner Discussion Question #1: What is the ideal role for a multilateral organization in helping countries build capacities in education? What initiatives should UNESCO

pursue in the Education Sector that are feasible, effective, and within its core responsibilities?

- Commissioner Discussion Question #2: What education issues should the U.S. consider as we head into a year with several major international education conferences? How can the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO contribute to those conferences?
- Public Comment Period
- Closing comments

4:30 p.m.

Education Breakout Session and Day 1 Concludes

2:00 p.m.

Afternoon Breakout Session:
NATURAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING

Location: Salon D

Coordinated by **General Hank Hatch (ret)**, Chairman, Committee on Natural Sciences and Engineering, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

Staffed by **Dr. Ross Corotis**, Science Advisor, Office of UNESCO Affairs, U.S. Department of State; Jefferson Science Fellow

- Operating Procedures
 - **Dr. Ross Corotis**, Science Advisor, Office of UNESCO Affairs, U.S. Department of State; Jefferson Science Fellow
- Welcoming Remarks
 - **General Hank Hatch (ret)**, Chairman, Committee on Natural Sciences and Engineering, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO
- Report from the U.S. National Committee for IHP
 - **Dr. Matthew C. Larsen**, Chief Scientist for Hydrology, United States Geological Survey; Chairman, U.S. National Committee for the International Hydrological Program
- Comments and Questions from Commissioners
- Public Comment Period
- Report from the U.S. National Committee for IOC
 - **Mrs. Liz Tirpak**, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, U.S. Department of State
- Comments and Questions from Commissioners
- Public Comment Period
- Description of the International Geological Correlation Programme
 - **Mr. Rich Calnan**, Chief of International Programs, United States Geological Survey
- Comments and Questions from Commissioners

- Public Comment Period
- Committee discussion of the Appropriate Role of the UNESCO Science Sector on the Subject of Climate Change
 - Discussion led by **General Hank Hatch, (ret.)**
- Public Comment Period
- Committee Discussion on Science and Engineering Capacity Building
 - Discussion led by **General Hank Hatch, (ret.)**
- Public Comment Period
- Closing Comments from the Chair

4:30 p.m.

Natural Sciences and Engineering Breakout Session and Day 1
Concludes

2:00 p.m.

**Afternoon Breakout Session:
SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES**

Location: Conference Room 5

Coordinated by **Mr. James P. Kelly III**, Director, International Affairs, The Federalist Society; Chairman, Committee on Social and Human Sciences, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

Staffed by **Mr. John Hoff**, Health Attaché, U.S. Mission to UNESCO

- Description of Developments in Bioethics
 - **Mr. John Hoff**, Health Attaché, U.S. Mission to UNESCO
- Description of 60th Anniversary Celebration of the Declaration of Human Rights
 - **Mr. John Hoff**
- Description of Human Rights Governance Networks
 - **Mr. James P. Kelly III**, Director, International Affairs, The Federalist Society; Chairman, Committee on Social and Human Sciences, U.S. National
- Description of UNESCO SHS Human Rights Activities
 - **Mr. James Kelly III**
- Comments and Questions from Commissioners
- Public Comment Period

4:30 p.m.

Social and Human Sciences Breakout Session and Day 1
Concludes

2:15 p.m.

Afternoon Breakout Session:
CULTURE

Location: Salon E

Coordinated by **Mr. Frank Hodsoll**, Vice-Chair, Committee on Culture, and Chairman, World Heritage Subcommittee, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

Staffed by **Ms. Laura Gritz**, Office of UNESCO Affairs, U.S. Department of State

- Welcome and Introductions
 - **Mr. Frank Hodsoll**, Vice-Chair, Committee on Culture, and Chair, World Heritage Subcommittee, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO
- World Heritage Program
 - Report of U.S. Tentative List and Potential Nominations
 - Report on Christ Church World Heritage Committee Meeting and World Heritage General Assembly
 - **Mr. Stephen Morris**, Chief, Office of International Affairs, National Park Service
 - Comments US/ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites)
 - **Mr. Gustavo Araoz**, Vice President, U.S. ICOMOS
 - Overview of Issues for World Heritage Committee Quebec Meeting
 - **Ambassador Louise Oliver**, U.S. Permanent Representative to UNESCO
 - Committee Recommendations on Tentative List, World Heritage Program, and World Heritage Center
- Sustainable Tourism
 - Report by the United Nations Foundation
 - **Ms. Kate Dodson**, Deputy Director, Sustainable Development, UN Foundation
 - **Mr. Ray Wanner**, Senior Advisor, UN Foundation
 - Committee Recommendations on Sustainable Tourism
- US/ICOMOS Symposium and Preserve America Follow-up
 - **Mr. John Fowler**, Executive Director, Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation and Chairman, US/ICOMOS Board
 - Committee Discussion and Recommendations

- Exchange in Cultural Property: Looking to the Future
 - 1970 UNESCO Convention
 - **Mr. Laurent Levi-Strauss**, Chief, UNESCO Section Museums & Cultural Objects
 - U.S. Implementation of the UNESCO Convention
 - **Mr. Martin E. Sullivan**, Director, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery and former Chairman, Cultural Property Advisory Committee
 - Strasbourg Seminar Discussion
 - **Dr. Anne Radice**, Director, Institute of Museum and Library Services
 - Potential Improvements to System
 - **Mr. Martin E. Sullivan**
 - Framework for Legal Markets
 - **Mr. Jim Fitzpatrick**, Senior Partner, Arnold & Porter
 - Importance of Legal Markets
 - **Mr. Philippe de Montebello**, Director & CEO, Metropolitan Museum of Art
 - Discussion and Recommendations
- UNESCO Museum Program
 - **Mr. Frank Hodsoll**
- Public Comment Period
- Committee Wrap-Up

4:30 p.m.

Culture Breakout Session and Day 1 Concludes

*Note: Committee briefly met again on Tuesday, May 20th to conclude session.

2:15 p.m.

Afternoon Breakout Session:
COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

Location: Conference Room 6

Coordinated by **Mr. Mark Bench**, Executive Director, World Press Freedom Committee; Chairman, Committee on Communication and Information, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

Staffed by **Mrs. Kelly Siekman**, Office of UNESCO Affairs, U.S. Department of State

- Welcome and Introductions
 - **Mr. Mark Bench**, Executive Director, World Press Freedom Committee; Chairman, Committee on Communication and Information, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO
- Opening Procedures
 - **Mrs. Kelly Siekman**, Acting Office Director, Office of UNESCO Affairs, U.S. Department of State
- Report and Update on International Program for the Development of Communications
 - **The Honorable Marguerite Sullivan**, Director, Center for International Media Assistance, National Endowment for Democracy; member, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO
- Comments and Questions from Commissioners
- Public Comment Period
- Discussion on Freedom of Expression: How do you maintain freedom of expression in a world where sensitivities have grown so acute?
- Discussion on Safety of Journalists: How should this topic be addressed within the UNESCO context?
- Summary of Committee Discussions
 - **Mr. Mark Bench**
- Public Comment Period
- Committee Wrap-Up

4:30 p.m. Communication and Information Breakout Session and Day 1
Concludes



**U.S. National Commission for UNESCO
Annual Meeting 2008**

Day Two

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

8:00 a.m. **Commissioners' Continental Breakfast in West Lobby**

9:15 a.m. **Thematic Breakout Sessions**
See below for Committee Breakout details

**THE UNESCO DRAFT PROGRAMME & BUDGET 2010-2011:
REGION I NATIONAL COMMISSION CONSULTATIONS and THE
UNESCO QUESTIONNAIRE**

Location: Salon E

Coordinated by **General Hank Hatch, (ret)**, Chairman, Committee on Natural Sciences and Engineering, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

Staffed by **Mrs. Susanna Connaughton**, Executive Director, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO; **Mrs. Kelly Siekman**, Acting Office Director, Office of UNESCO Affairs; **Dr. Ross Corotis**, Science Advisor, Office of UNESCO Affairs; **Ms. Emily Spencer**, Education Officer, Office of UNESCO Affairs, Office of UNESCO Affairs

- Commissioner Discussion of Sectoral Priorities and Main Lines of Action
- Develop Preliminary Recommendations
- Public Comment Period

10:30 a.m. **Break**

9:00 a.m.

FUTURE COMPOSITION OF THE U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION AND BEST PRACTICES

Location: Salon C

Coordinated by **Mr. Ron Bogle**, President, American Architecture Foundation; member, U.S. National Commission on UNESCO

Staffed by **Mr. Alex Zemek**, Deputy Executive Director, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO; **Ms. Alice Kottmyer**, Office of the Legal Advisor, Federal Advisory Committee Act Issues, U.S. Department of State

- Presentation on Composition
 - **Mr. Alex Zemek**, Deputy Executive Director, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO
- Commissioner Discussion on Composition and Best Practices
- Develop Preliminary Recommendations
- Public Comment Period

10:30 a.m.

Break

10:45 a.m.

Plenary Session in Salon B/G

- Presentation on U.S.-funded UNESCO Museums Project
 - **Mr. Laurent Levi-Strauss**, Chief of Section, UNESCO Section of Museums and Cultural Objects

11:30 a.m.

Break

11:45 a.m.

Commissioners' Informational Briefing Luncheon in Salon H/F

1:00 p.m.

Concluding Plenary in Room B/G

- Plenary Presentations by Committees and Thematic Breakout Issues and Commission Discussion
- Open Public Comment Session
- Finalize Recommendations during Business Session and Concluding Administrative Items

2:30 p.m.

Conference Concludes

III. Meeting Minutes and Notes

May 19, 2008

The United States National Commission for UNESCO held its fourth annual meeting at the Georgetown University Conference Hotel at 3800 Reservoir Road, N.W. Washington, D.C. on Monday, May 19th, 2008 and Tuesday, May 20th, 2008. The meeting began at 9 a.m.

9 a.m. – Opening Plenary Session

Call to Order and National Commission Address

Mrs. Susanna Connaughton, Executive Director, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

Mrs. Susanna Connaughton welcomed all to the 4th Annual Meeting of the U.S National Commission and noted that it was a Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Meeting and therefore, it was open to the public. She extended words of appreciation and thanks to those who traveled from other countries, such as, France, Switzerland, and Tanzania, to attend the Annual Meeting. Mrs. Connaughton also welcomed all of the speakers who had come to share their experience and knowledge. She mentioned that they are all public servants and expressed her gratitude for their service.

She thanked Mr. James Warlick, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, for his participation. She thanked Dr. John DeGioia, President of Georgetown University, for hosting the conference, and his Special Assistant for Policy Planning, Ms. Jessica Raper, and Mr. Chris Darling, Director for Special Project, for their generosity and efforts.

Mrs. Connaughton also extended appreciation to the members of the Annual Meeting Planning Subcommittee who had contributed their invaluable time. These included Mr. Ronald Bogle – Chairperson, Ms. Bonita Somerfield, Mr. Nigel Cameron, John Hatch, Ms. Marguerite Sullivan, Mr. Andre Varchaver, and also the Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs who have been extremely helpful in working closely with the program officers to develop strong agendas for the breakout sessions. Special mention was also made to Mr. Chuck Kinn, Conference Manager, and Ms. Francine Randolph for their assistance.

Mrs. Connaughton expressed her appreciation to the Program Officers from both Paris and Washington.

Program Officers from Paris:

- Mr. John Hoff, Commission Social and Human Science Officer
- Mr. David Ostroff, Commission Officer

Program Officers from Washington, DC:

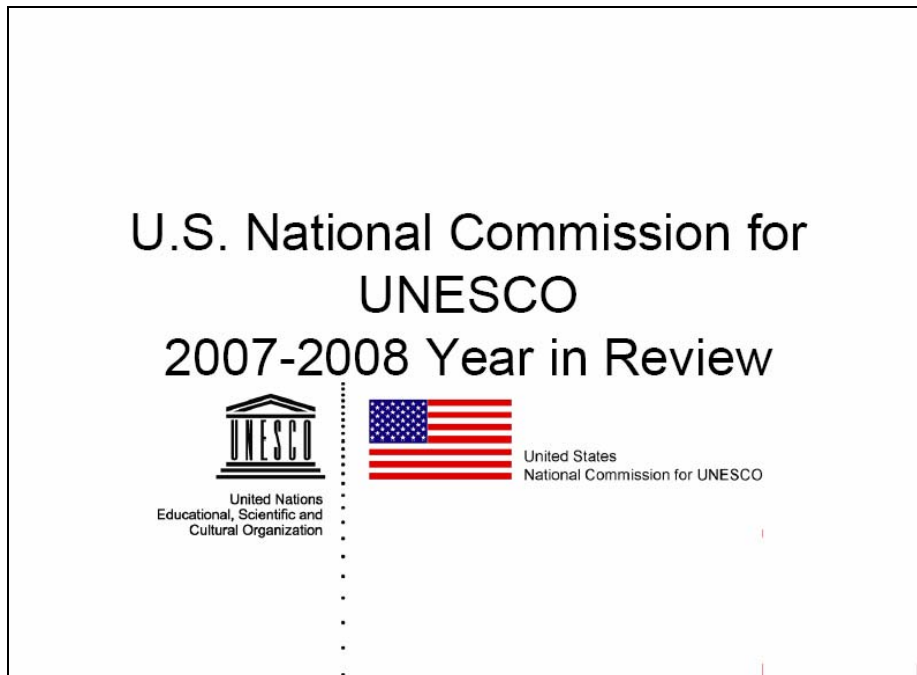
- Dr. Ross Corotis, Science Advisor
- Ms. Laura Gritz, Culture and Communication/Information Officer
- Ms. Emily Spencer, Education Officer
- Ms. Kelly Siekman, Acting Officer Director
- Mr. Alexander Zemek, Deputy Executive Director for the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

A special introduction was given to the newly appointed officer, Mr. Jefferson Brown, who is currently the Deputy Chief Commission in Ecuador and will join the office as Policy Director this summer. He will be assigned to the Office for two years.

She added that the role of the U.S. National Commission is to provide advice to the Department and Secretary of State on issues related to Education, the Sciences, Culture, Communication and Information, and the formulation and implementation of U.S. policies towards UNESCO.

Mrs. Connaughton then discussed the agenda for this year's Annual Meeting. She noted that this year's agenda had taken into consideration the evaluation of last year's Annual Meeting, individual comments, and the advice of the Planning Committee. The year's agenda focused on U.S. policies in the International Arena, specifically at UNESCO.

The following power-point slides highlight Mrs. Connaughton's presentation:





Conduit to Civil Society

- **Magic Planet**

- Gathering of NASA, NOAA, and Global Imagination Inc.
- General Conference
- Year of Planet Earth



- **200th Anniversary of the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Route**

- Website
- Amistad Freedom Tour



Conduit to Civil Society

- Soliciting input from experts in preparation for the U.S. National Submission to CONFINTA VI (International Conference on Adult Education)
 - Academics, NGOs, and federal experts contributed comments to U.S. National Submission
 - Use of Commission website



Active Committees & Subcommittees

- Membership renewals and new appointment to U.S. National Committees for U.S. International Oceanographic Committee (IOC) and U.S. International Hydrological Program (IHP)
- **Establishment of World Heritage Tentative List Subcommittee**
 - Close collaboration with National Park Service
 - Commissioners, cultural community, federal agencies
 - Thorough reviews of candidates



UNESCO Chairs/UNITWIN

- **2007:** Two recommended Two approved
 - Utah State (Open Education)
 - University of Washington (Sustainable Rivers)
- **2008:** One recommended
 - Kansas University (Biodiversity Informatics)
- UNESCO continues to improve monitoring of Chairs worldwide



Engagement in Youth Activities

- **UNESCO Youth Forums**

- 1st Americas Youth Forum, September 2007, Mexico
- 5th UNESCO Youth Forum, October 2007, Paris

- **World Heritage Youth Forum**



U.S. Commission for UNESCO Laura W. Bush Traveling Fellowship

- Private donation
- American college or university student
- Project or study abroad related to the UNESCO mandate
- Opportunity to travel for the first time
- Thorough review of applications
- Next call for applications



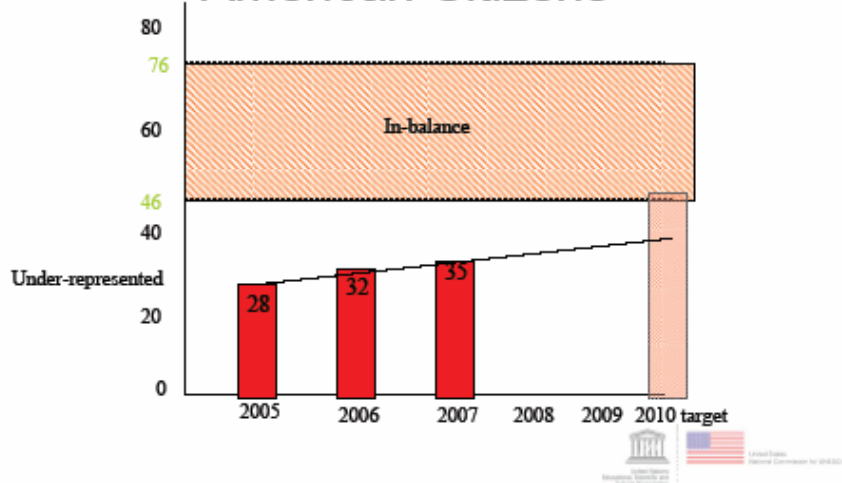
UNESCO's Youth@the Crossroads Symposium



- Through our office, close collaboration with the IO Bureau, Office of the DG, UNESCO's Bureau of Strategic Planning, and the government of Bahrain
- Bringing together community NGOs, foundations, governments, individual experts from around the world



UNESCO Employment Statistics for American Citizens



Employment

- **Young Professionals Program (YPP)**
 - 2007: Four U.S. candidates reached the interviews round, and 1 joined the UNESCO ranks this fall in the Science Sector.
 - Under-represented member states may recommend 12 candidates to be considered by UNESCO; 10 worldwide are hired
 - Expected delay until late fall of this year, for incoming YPP employees to arrive early Spring 2009
- **Associated Experts: another opportunity**



Employment

- Deputy Director of the World Heritage Center, in charge of Management, Culture Sector
 - D1 opportunity
 - Strong management experience and skills
 - Speaks English and French or Spanish



Close cooperation with the Office of the First Lady



- Global Health & Literacy Forum
- Videos at Regional Literacy Conferences
- Keeping her apprised of literacy updates, cultural engagement



Individual Commissioners

- Over the next three years, many Commission members will have served two consecutive terms, and will therefore no longer be eligible for reappointment.
- Those representing an NGO, many of your groups may remain, but the individual representative will not be eligible for reappointment.



National Commission 2005-present

- **UNESCO Chairs/UNITWIN Programs approved**

- UC Boulder: Communications
- UC Denver: Education
- Cornell: Social & Human Sciences
- Ethics & Public Policy Center: Science/SHS
- U.Oregon: Social & Human Sciences
- Georgetown: Education
- Utah State: Education
- U. Washington: Science



National Commission 2005-present

- **Young Professionals Program (YPP)**

- Number of applicants per cycle grew from 115 to over 200 qualified young people
- One has been hired by UNESCO each year

- **U.S. National Committees Established**

- International Hydrological Program (2006)
- International Oceanographic Committee (2007)



National Commission 2005-present

- **Subcommittees established include:**
 - World Heritage Tentative List (2007)
 - L'Oreal Women in Science (2007)
 - Laura W. Bush Traveling Fellowship (2008)



National Commission 2005-present

- **Participation in UNESCO Meetings**
 - Region I Consultations of National Commissions (2005)
 - 33rd General Conference (2005)
 - Region I Consultations on the Role of National Commissions in World Heritage (2006)
 - 34th General Conference (2007)
 - Region I Consultations of National Commissions (June 2008)
 - UNESCO Regional Literacy Conferences and World Heritage Committee meetings



Upcoming Activities

- Youth
 - World Heritage Youth Forum, Canada July 2008
 - Laura W. Bush Traveling Fellowship
- Region I National Commissions Consultations
- Youth @ the Crossroads
- Office of the First Lady
 - Upcoming UNESCO related events
- Participation in meetings such as: World Heritage Conference, world Education forums, IPDC



Update on Activities of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

Mrs. Connaughton mentioned the amazing opportunities that the Office had to increase engagement with civil societies. Soon after last year's Conference, Mrs. Connaughton and a few others made an invaluable contribution to the UNESCO Conference Exhibition honoring the Year of Planet Earth. They pulled together a collaborative effort comprising NASA, NOAA, and a private company called Global Imagination. The exhibit was at UNESCO for the entire 3 weeks of the General Conference. NASA and NOAA contributed most of their observation data, and Global Imagination provided a revolving digital globe that depicted, for example, sea temperature, air borne particles, wave heights, volcanoes, and fires. Not only did the globe present a geographic perspective but also a time perspective. In addition, Mr. Alex Zemek presented a display using various sets of data including a map of Press Freedoms, Literacy Rates, Trade Routes, and Trends of Internet Communications to discuss "Observing and Understanding our Globalized World Through History, Sciences, Culture and Communications." The exhibit was such a huge success at the General Conference, that the Secretary invited the Magic Planet back this past February as well as to the International Year of Astronomy.

Domestic

All countries on the slave route were asked to launch exhibits and commemorations for the event of the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade Route. The Secretariat, including a message from Secretary Rice, participated in the Launch of the Amistad Freedom Tour. The Amistad is a replica of a slave ship with a

permanent crew, which retraces the original route and at each port invites groups of students aboard. Talks about education and public diplomacy programs took place daily as part of the Amistad Freedom Tour.

Ms. Emily Spencer worked with experts in the Department of Education, and solicited responses from NGOs concerned with adult education to prepare the U.S.'s national report on adult education for UNESCO's upcoming 6th International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VI). She posted a questionnaire on the Commission's website, to which all members of the public were able to submit their answers and recommendations via the same website.

UNESCO Committees and Subcommittees

The Commission has the same active Committees this year, which are as follows:

1. U.S. International Hydrological Program (IHP) Committee - advised the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO on issues related to the UNESCO IHP
2. Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) –which reviewed the IOC future questionnaire
3. World Heritage Tentative List Subcommittee -- worked with the National Park Service to bring together outside experts and Commissioners in the field of site conservation who advised on sites to be included on the World Heritage Tentative List.

The UNESCO Chairs Program

There are two chairs programs which were accepted by UNESCO this past year:

1. Open Education (Utah State University)
2. Sustainable Rivers (University of Washington)

Several weeks ago, the commission recommended that UNESCO consider the application for a biodiversity informative chair at Kansas University. There are over 600 university chairs worldwide. Only active chairs are maintained and they have to communicate with UNESCO.

America's Youth Forum

The objective of America's Youth Forum is to increase engagement with youths at UNESCO.

Two representatives, Ms. Alyson Johnson and Mr. Alex Zemek, were sent to the Youth Forum which took place in September in Mexico in 2007. Fluent in both Spanish and English, with Mr. Zemek having worked extensively in Spanish, they were extremely active representatives, who were very involved in the International Multicultural meetings. These Youth Forums helped with public diplomacy and also brought youths

into the UNESCO Forum. Mr. Alex Zemek recommended that these activities be continued and that a system of alternating rotations for future Youth Forums be established to allow for the continuity of attendees. Ms. Johnson and Mr. Zemek also took part in the Youth Forum in Paris which preceded the General Conference.

World Heritage Forum

The objective of the World Heritage Forum is to inform and raise members' awareness of World Heritage, so they in turn may spread that knowledge around the world and to their own communities upon return home. Ms. Eliza Ross will be attending the Forum in Quebec this July.

U.S. National Commission for UNESCO Laura W. Bush Traveling Fellowship

The objective of this fellowship is to assist in U.S. youths' travel abroad to conduct work relating to UNESCO. In order to achieve this objective, the Commission established the Laura W. Bush Traveling Fellowship for U.S. college students. It is a 4 to 6 week program in which U.S. students design and execute independent projects abroad. Mr. Michael Aguilar, Ms. Laura Olsen, and Ms. Marika Shioiri-Clark are the inaugural recipients of the Laura W. Bush Traveling Fellowship. They expressed gratitude to the Commission for the opportunities they were given through the Fellowship. Michael's project takes him to Guatemala, Honduras, and San Salvador to study Peace and Conflict Resolution. Ms. Laura Olsen's project is in the Dominican Republic involving Ethnographic and Environmental Research Studies, particularly the study of rain water harvesting. Ms. Shioiri-Clark will travel to India to explore improving architectural design to mitigate airborne diseases.

Counter-Radicalization Methods Conference

UNESCO's office has worked in close collaboration with the office of the Director General, UNESCO's Bureau of Strategic Planning and the government of Bahrain in a conference being convened by UNESCO in Bahrain, June 15-17 this year, entitled "Youths at the Cross Roads – Future with-out Violent Radicalization" to increase awareness of exploitation of at risk youths by violent organizations and offer positive alternatives.

Goals of the Conference were:

- 1) To highlight successful positive community alternatives that are being provided to youths.
- 2) To highlight best practices of the various committee activities, to encourage ways for other countries to adopt them, and to spread these ideas around the world.

Two hundred attendees, NGOs, foundations, federal & local leaders and industrial experts are expected to participate.

Employment Statistics of American Citizens at UNESCO

In order to have a proper balance in the number of employees in each member state in UNESCO a formula is applied. According to the formula, a minimum of 46 and maximum of 76 U.S. citizens should gain employment by UNESCO. The targeted date to meet the minimum employee level is 2010. There are two avenues to increase employment of American citizens in UNESCO.

1. Young Professional Program –YPP (for under represented states)
2. Associate Expert Program- extrabudgetarily funded

In order to assist with the employee enrollment, a D1 level position for Deputy Director of the World Heritage Center who will be in charge of management in the culture sector has been advertised at the conference. This position requires strong management, experience and skills.

Other Activities

The Office of the First Lady, Mrs. Laura Bush, convened a Global, Health and Literary Forum that took place shortly before the UN General Assembly last year.

Ms. Sally Lovejoy at the U.S. Mission to UNESCO has been active on this initiative. The First Lady has provided presentations that have been shown at each of UNESCO's Regional Literacy Conference this year.

Micro-view of U.S. National Commission since 2005

1. Eight (8) UNESCO Chairs programs were put forward
2. Young Professional Program (YPP) applicants to the office have doubled in quantity and consistently advanced in quality.
3. Two (2) U.S. National Committees established- the IHP and IOC
4. Active Subcommittees
 - World Heritage Tentative list subcommittees
 - Laurel Woman's in Science Subcommittee
 - Laura Bush Traveling Fellowship Subcommittee

Many Commissioners serve in the 34th General Conference, others in the Regional Literacy Conferences and World Heritage Committee meetings.

Upcoming Activities

- Youth Forum- at the World Heritage meeting
- Youth at the Cross- Roads meeting in Bahrain
- Working closely with the Office of the First Lady to coordinate upcoming

UNESCO-related events.

- Participating in the World Education Forum. Three very large Education Forums in the next year.

Two Commissioners have been elected to the program at UNESCO. They are:

1. Ms. Marguerite Sullivan, Representative to the IPDC Program
2. Ms. Benita Somerfield, Representative to the UNESCO Institution of Life Long Learning.

Keynote Address: The U.S. in International Organizations

Mr. James Warlick, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of International Organization Affairs

Introduction by Susanna Connaughton

Mr. James Warlick is the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of International Organization Affairs. He is responsible for all aspects of the U.S foreign policies at the U.N. He is a Senior Foreign Service Officer who has directed the Office of European Political Affairs at the U.N. Political Affairs. He also served in Baghdad as a Principal Advisor to Ambassador L. Paul Bremer for the first half of 2004. Mr. James Warlick is a graduate from Stanford University and holds degrees from Oxford University and Fletcher School. He leads our front office with intelligence and grace. He has always taken a particularly keen interest in the politics and issues we work on in the Office of UNESCO Affairs.

Following the introduction by Mrs. Connaughton, Mr. James Warlick welcomed all in attendance, especially the Commissioners. He also thanked his excellent team, Mrs. Susanna Connaughton, Mr. Alex Zemek, and Mrs. Kelly Siekman and her team. Special thanks were extended to Ambassador Louise Oliver for her outstanding job representing the U.S.

The U.S. Role in Multilateral Institutions

Mr. Warlick began his presentation by commenting on a rumor about the U.S. not caring about multilateral diplomacy or the United Nations. He mentioned that the U.S. is the last super power and thus has an important role in leading the way towards new heights of prosperity and cooperation. He added that the U.S. is supposed to respond to various crises in the world based on its foreign policy goals and objectives, however, he sees things quite differently. He said that over time in the IO Bureau there has been an increase in commitment of the present administration to the importance of multilateral institutions, which will likely carry on to the next administration. There are many crises or challenges in the world, and the U.S. cannot solve them alone, for example:

1. The war on terrorism
2. Transnational challenges, such as, flow of refugees, malaria in Africa, and AIDS
3. Sudan
4. The civilian population in Darfur
5. North Korea
6. Issues related to Iran

These challenges have to be solved multilaterally working with other countries. There have been some successful results, for example, it took a six party coalition working together with international communities that caused the impact we have seen so far in North Korea with the closing of the nuclear facility at Pyongyang.

Mr. Warlick, discussing his work with the UN Security Council, mentioned that there had never been more issues brought to them at once. This affirms the increasingly widespread belief that in order to achieve their goals and objectives, countries have to work multilaterally. The international community must speak with one voice.

He remarked that there was a time when it was being questioned why the U.S. should rejoin UNESCO; whether it was money well spent, or it was an organization fundamentally political in nature. No one asks these questions today because the value of UNESCO's participation is well known.

The U.S. certainly provides significant financial resources to international organizations, for example with 50% of the world food aid. The influence of the U.S. Government also eases many problems. We are successful in working through international organizations, and through efforts of many diplomatic government officials, but in fact the world is a smaller place. We look not only to the public sector but to the private sector as an integral part of our diplomacy. Mr. Warlick offered a word of caution, and said that success does not come easily in multilateral diplomacy as in bilateral diplomacy. He added that bilateral diplomacy efforts often make headlines in the New York Times but the same is rarely seen for multilateral diplomacy because it is a diplomacy tracked on a longer timeline. Success in multilateral diplomacy will not happen overnight. It will happen incrementally and will require patience and commitment on the part of the U.S. Government and the American people. He ended by saying that our current program is a form of showing commitment.

Introduction of Ambassador Louise V. Oliver by Susanna Connaughton

The Honorable Louise Oliver is the U.S. Permanent Representative to UNESCO. Since she presented her credentials to UNESCO's Director General, Mr. Koïchiro Matsuura, in March, 2004, UNESCO has never been the same. Ambassador Oliver has led national organizations in the field of Education, Philanthropy, Public Policy, and other related fields. She has worked extensively in the private sector and at the UN in Education to promote democratic values and has served on the board of six educational institutions including the John Carter Library-Brown University. Ambassador Oliver graduated from

Smith College. She and her husband David have five children and one new grand child. She is well liked and highly respected by the UNESCO Secretariat, staff, and all of the Permanent Representatives and their delegations. She is every one's "go to" person.

Ambassador's Address

The Honorable Louise V. Oliver, U.S. Permanent Representative to UNESCO.

Below is the text of Ambassador Louise Oliver's remarks:

Good morning everyone. What a pleasure it is to be back with you all again. It is said that time passes quickly when you're having fun, so I guess I must be having a lot of fun, since for me this past year has gone by at lightning speed. Before discussing the Mission's work at UNESCO, I'd like to thank Susanna and her team for the great job they have done in organizing this meeting, and to join her in thanking Commissioner Jack DeGioia for hosting us once again here at the Georgetown University Conference Center. I'd like to express my appreciation as well to Commissioners Ron Bogle and Adair Margo for hosting us at the Blair House reception last night. And, congratulations, Susanna, on the Laura Bush Fellowship.

I'd also like to thank all those Commissioners that have helped my Mission and me during the past year. Given the non-stop challenges that we face at UNESCO, I can honestly say that we couldn't survive without you.

This morning, instead of focusing on a few selected issues as I did last year, I am going to give you an overview of the past year, with brief comments on a number of different items. Then I hope you will ask questions during the panel discussion on the ones that you would like more details on. I know I will probably tell you more than you ever wanted to know about UNESCO, but since this will be my last opportunity to address this body as Ambassador, I would like to give you a good sense of what is currently going on in that organization, and what you might expect for the future. Let me apologize in advance for having to rely on a written text, but there is a great deal to say in a very limited period of time.

So let's start with the 177th session of the Executive Board last September, which had the responsibility of drafting UNESCO's 2008-2013 medium-term strategy (the C4), and its two-year 2008-2009 program and budget (the C5). I think the biggest problem we faced was that only a few delegations seemed to understand the fundamental difference between the C4, a relatively broad-based six-year strategic plan, and the C5, a more detailed two-year operational business plan with concrete, measurable results.

No doubt the reason for this is that the C5 has a dual role, as it serves both as a two-year business plan, and as the plan for the first two years of the six-year strategic plan, the C4, which makes it all very confusing, compounded of course by the in-house lingo. This resulted in lengthy debates about the degree of specificity

that should be in the C5. There were also constant attempts by various delegations to slip new ideas and projects into the C5, since they did not understand, or tried to ignore, the fact that the plans of action and objectives of the C5 budgetary and operational plan had to be closely linked to the strategic framework established by the C4.

Fortunately the US was one of three countries representing Group 1, our geographic electoral group, on the eighteen-member drafting group, and was therefore able to exert a strong influence on the entire process. As a result, we ended up quite satisfied with what was eventually achieved, which was a “rolling” C4, a six-year strategic plan that could be modified in response to changing circumstances, and a C5 that was more results-oriented than any past UNESCO C5 has ever been. In fact, what made the C5 discussions particularly difficult was that the members of the Executive Board took a long time to agree on a budget level for the C5. Though most countries wanted to increase UNESCO’s \$610 million dollar biennium budget, four major countries, the US, Canada, Mexico, and Japan, were unwilling to do so, despite the pleas of the Director-General.

Everyone was very relieved when the Executive Board finally agreed on a \$631 million dollar budget ceiling. It is important to note, however, that the reason the U.S. ultimately joined the budget consensus was that the Director-General said that the additional funds would be primarily used to strengthen UNESCO’s infrastructure, establish an ethics program, fund a high-level management position at the World Heritage Center, and provide support to UNESCO’s educational initiatives, all of which are US priorities.

UNESCO’s 34th General Conference began immediately after the end of the Executive Board meeting. Since both the draft C4 and the draft C5 with the new budget ceiling had to be approved by the General Conference, and since any UNESCO Member State could challenge the recommendations of the Executive Board, we were a bit apprehensive. Although there was some grumbling by various Member States that had not participated in the Executive Board negotiations, the delicate compromise held, and the new C4 and C5 were adopted by consensus. However, that process has led to an on-going discussion of the respective roles of the Executive Board and the General Conference, which is supposed to be the supreme governing and policy-making body of the Organization.

The General Conference went on to discuss document 34 C/3, the results of the last biennium, document 34 C/9, parts I and II, the report of the Executive Board, and more than fifty other “C” documents, but you can relax as I am not going to discuss most of those. Instead I will move right on to what was for us the most difficult part of the very intense three-week General Conference, which was getting the adoption of a resolution on Holocaust Remembrance, document 34 C/49. This resolution was sponsored by the U.S., Israel, Canada, Australia, and Russia, the same five countries that had sponsored an almost identical resolution in New York.

Because the UN General Assembly had adopted their Holocaust resolution by consensus, we hoped it would not become a major political problem at UNESCO. Unfortunately, Egypt decided to oppose the resolution, and encouraged other countries to do so as well, which was interesting since Palestine, not Egypt, was the Chairmen of Electoral Group V (b), the Arab Electoral Group.

The purpose of the resolution was to encourage UNESCO to develop educational initiatives that could counter the efforts of those who cast doubt on the historical facts relating to the Holocaust. The Egyptians and their supporters, which included Iran and Venezuela as well as a number of other Arab states, wanted to broaden the resolution to include all crimes against humanity, thereby reducing the focus on the Holocaust and potentially adding other complicated and difficult issues. These changes would probably have made it impossible to get the resolution adopted by consensus.

Because the Mission had always worried about potential opposition to the resolution, including objectionable new language submitted from the floor in the course of debate, we had recruited 65 additional sponsors for the resolution, which enabled us to hold the line and eventually get the resolution adopted by consensus, with only two minor changes to the text.

During this process, a number of delegations mentioned the fact that this debate highlighted the significant change that had occurred in the US presence at UNESCO since the October 2005 General Conference. At that time the U.S. had been completely isolated in its position on the Cultural Diversity Convention, and subsequently had been defeated in the vote on the Convention by 148 to 2, with 4 abstentions. Two years later, the U.S. was the organizer and leader of a coalition of 70 countries that enabled a very sensitive resolution on the Holocaust to withstand strong opposition and win General Conference approval by consensus.

Two other resolutions relating to Israel, document 34 C/15 on Jerusalem, and documents 34 C/16 and 34 C/16 Addendum concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories, also passed by consensus. Thanks to efforts by the Mission, this was the eighteenth time in the past four years that these two resolutions, which are submitted in one form or another at every session of Executive Board and General Conference, were able to win adoption by consensus. Unlike at every other UN organization, Israel is welcomed at UNESCO, and plays an active and influential role in the organization, including serving as the current Chairman of Electoral Group 1.

When we presented our Holocaust Remembrance resolution, we wondered whether it would lead to resolutions from other countries asking UNESCO to remember other tragedies. Sure enough, the Ukrainians decided to submit a resolution, document 34 C/50, on the remembrance of victims of the Great Famine (Holodomor) in Ukraine.

The U.S. decided to co-sponsor the Ukrainian resolution, which was strongly opposed by the Russians. At one point the Ukrainian resolution became so controversial that it looked as though we were headed for a vote, which worried us as we were afraid that a vote might have an adverse effect on our Holocaust resolution. Fortunately, as a result of the skillful work done by our Deputy Assistant Secretary, Gerry Anderson and the Mission's lawyer, Mike Peay, the Holodomor resolution was also adopted by consensus.

Another difficult issue at the General Conference involved the development of a plan of action to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, document 34 C/59. The draft plan consisted of a very wide-range of activities and initiatives, including holding two major conferences and relabeling almost every program at UNESCO with a human rights label. The U.S. delegation, assisted by Commissioner Jim Kelly and supported by a number of other countries, successfully argued that although UNESCO has a valid role in human rights, it should be limited, and that a significantly scaled back plan should be sent to the April Executive Board for further discussion.

The follow-up of the recommendations of the Science Review Panel was another important issue discussed at the General Conference, document 34 C/13. The Deputy Director of the National Science Foundation, our colleague Dr. Kathie Olsen, who had served on the Science Review Panel and was a member of the U.S. delegation, argued forcefully for the continued involvement of the Panel in helping UNESCO implement the recommendations. This idea was challenged by a number of delegations that for various reasons do not support serious reform of the two science sectors. The debate ended when UNESCO's Deputy Director General, Marcio Barbosa, who is in charge of the internal taskforce that is supposed to oversee the follow-up of the Panel's report, said that he would continue to consult individual members of the Review Panel, even though the Panel itself would be disbanded.

Since the demand for literacy and basic education programs is steadily growing, the U.S. submitted a resolution requiring UNESCO to strengthen TTISSA, the Teacher Training Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa, document 34 C/51. In addition to France and Afghanistan, twenty-three African countries co-sponsored the resolution with us, which was enthusiastically adopted by the General Conference. The U.S. will continue to work with other delegations to ensure that UNESCO's programs in teacher training become more effective and results-oriented.

Because several new Category II Centers were approved, the issue arose as to what the criteria for these semi-autonomous Centers should be, how much independence they should have, and how much of an administrative burden they should pose for UNESCO. There are currently 28 Category II Centers, with three more in the pipeline. Additional centers are in the process of being created, including a Category II Center on Integrated Water Resources Management in the U.S. that is being developed by the Army Corps of Engineers and which will focus on

training and technology transfer. The issue of Category II Centers and their role in UNESCO's decentralization strategy will be examined in depth at the October session of the Executive Board.

In addition to the discussions conducted in the various Commissions, two Ministerial Round Tables were held. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings, who headed the U.S. delegation, participated in a Round Table on "Education and Economic Development." Commissioners Jack Marburger, the Director of OSTP, and Arden Bement, Director of the National Science Foundation, participated in a Round Table on "Science and Technology for Sustainable Development." Although both these Round Tables were very interesting, questions are being raised regarding the timing and purpose of future Ministerial Round Tables.

Another Commissioner, Dr. James Billington, the U.S. Librarian of Congress, along with a number of other individuals from the Library of Congress, joined us for the launch of the World Digital Library, which as you all know will be an online repository of significant primary cultural materials from around the world that can be easily accessed by researchers or other interested parties. In addition to hosting a great reception at the Hilton Hotel, the Library of Congress representatives set up two inter-active prototypes with material from Brazil, Egypt, and two Russian libraries, and conducted regular briefings for the press and interested delegations.

It was a tremendous success, and generated more publicity than any of the numerous ministers and heads of state that attended the General Conference. We expect that the World Digital Library will go "live" at a ceremony at UNESCO in April 2009. The Planet Earth Exhibit, which Susanna already mentioned, was also tremendously successful.

Elections for the Executive Board, as well as for UNESCO's committees, were held during the General Conference, and as always, they added a great deal of stress to the meeting. The U.S. was reelected to the Executive Board as part of an agreed-upon slate for Group 1, but it should be noted that it got the least number of votes of the six Group 1 candidates. Equally interesting is that both Russia and Cuba got the highest number of votes in their respective geographic groups, with Russia receiving more votes than any other state, including France.

The U.S. also got elected to the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Country of Origin, or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, and re-elected to the Legal Committee, the Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee, and the International Program for the Development of Communication. As happened in 2005, the U.S. failed to get elected to the International Hydrological Commission.

Overlapping with the General Conference was the World Assembly of the World Heritage Convention. This was highly problematic, as there were a number of difficult issues that needed to be dealt with by the Member States of the World Heritage Convention, which prevented states with small delegations from continuing

to participate fully in the General Conference during that period of time.

The most controversial issue that dominated the meeting related to the election of new members for the World Heritage Committee. After numerous rounds of voting, Group 1 countries lost a seat on the Committee, and Group II countries failed to get a single seat. However, five Arab countries were elected, which may significantly change the dynamics at the World Heritage Committee meeting in Quebec this summer.

Because there was a great deal of dissatisfaction with various aspects of the General Conference, including the late distribution of a number of documents, the new President of the General Conference, George Anastassopoulos, the Ambassador of Greece, decided to organize an informal working group that will examine issues relating to the recent General Conference, with a view to improving the next one. The U.S. is a member of that group and is participating actively.

Less than six months later we were fully engaged in yet another session of the Executive Board, this time led by its new Chairman, the Ambassador of Benin. Issues relating to climate change and sustainable development played a prominent role at the meeting. Fortunately, UNESCO's climate change strategy is being led by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, which will help keep the focus of UNESCO's efforts in this area on research and data, and on the effects of climate change on World Heritage sites. Moreover, as a result of being elected to the IOC's Futures Council, the U.S. will be able to play an active role in helping to shape the IOC's work in this and other areas.

However, we were not pleased by the attempt of some delegations to link issues relating to sustainable development to the Education For All initiative, as these delegations believe that EFA would become more visible if it were linked to another more high-profile and popular issue. This approach began at the EFA High-Level Group meeting in Dakar.

We think that this is a flawed and defeatist attitude, and that the best way to make EFA more visible is to give it the attention that it deserves, which includes having UNESCO take its EFA leadership role, which includes serving as the coordinator of the five UN agencies working on EFA, more seriously.

To his credit, the Director-General always refers to EFA as UNESCO's top priority. However, even though most Member States say that they agree with this statement, they continue to ask the Director-General to develop new initiatives in a variety of other areas, including areas such as energy and migration that are already being dealt with by other UN bodies. Naturally this leads to a reallocation of resources away from EFA.

In general, however, we were very pleased with the results of the April 2008 Executive Board meeting. In addition to the rather weak support given to a

Venezuelan proposal for a new convention on indigenous and endangered languages, an Egyptian attempt to force an Executive Board discussion of the highly controversial Mughrabi Gate issue in Jerusalem by placing it in a separate agenda item did not succeed. More importantly, a Cuban-Iranian initiative intended to polarize and politicize the Executive Board was unsuccessful.

The Cuban initiative, Item 48 as it soon became known to everyone, was intended to get UNESCO to give legitimacy to a declaration on cultural diversity and human rights that resulted from a September 2007 Non-Aligned meeting in Teheran. Cuba, as a member of the Executive Board and the Chairman of the NAM, the Non-Aligned Movement group at UNESCO, used UNESCO's commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the rationale for this item.

In addition to the U.S., a number of European countries strongly opposed this initiative, particularly the French, because they feared that linking human rights to cultural diversity could lead to a denial of the universality of human rights, and potentially undermine or even destroy the value and effectiveness of the Cultural Diversity Convention. In fact, France, Belgium, and several other countries were instructed to demand a vote on this item if the draft resolution was not significantly revised, which was fine with the Cubans who also wanted a vote. However, other countries in the NAM understood the damage that would be done to the organization by a vote on this issue, and so after much negotiation, a vote was avoided and consensus achieved.

Moreover, as promised, a scaled-back plan of action for the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was presented. A major international conference with preparatory regional conferences had been dropped, in favor of more modest round tables, and several new ideas were adopted, including one from the U.S. which suggests translating the Declaration into 120 additional indigenous languages. Not only does this idea enable more individuals to become aware of the rights to which they are entitled by the Universal Declaration, it is sensitive to the great importance that UNESCO's Member States give to languages.

We were particularly pleased by the way the Executive Board addressed various administrative and management issues. A U.S. resolution asking for another report on the progress being made with resolving the problems of UNESCO's Brasilia office was adopted with virtually no discussion, in contrast to previous heated debates on this topic. A strong attempt to eliminate one of the Executive Board's committees, the Group of Experts on Financial and Administrative Matters, failed.

A resolution to increase transparency on UNESCO consultants was successful, as was a tough resolution on the issue of UNESCO publications, which had been drafted before the recent Washington Post article on that subject. Attention was also paid to the renovations being done at UNESCO's headquarters, with much concern being expressed over the 2.4 million Euro cost overruns for the project.

The collegiality and solidarity of most of the members of the Executive Board was quite striking, and would bode well for the future, except for the fact that many of the most knowledgeable and reliable Ambassadors will be rotating out of their positions at UNESCO this summer. Given the important role that personality plays at UNESCO, it remains to be seen whether their replacements continue in the same tradition.

Although we have five months before the next Executive Board, the U.S. Mission will continue to be extraordinarily busy. Among other things we are actively involved in helping UNESCO organize a meeting to be held in mid-June in Bahrain entitled Youth @ The Crossroads: A Future Without Violent Radicalization. This meeting will gather experts from around the world to exchange experiences and highlight best practices, including local community-based programs that might help keep youth from being exploited by terrorist or other extremist groups. On-going support for this initiative could help reduce violence among youth and help reduce the threat of instability in key countries around the world.

We are also working with the National Science Foundation on a conference to be held in Washington in late June that will bring together senior members of the U.S. science community to address future global challenges relating to water, and to strengthen our work with UNESCO in this area. Science diplomacy is a potentially important adjunct to traditional diplomacy, and one that should be strengthened, given the number of developing countries that place science and technology at the center of their development strategies.

U.S. strategic interests can also be advanced through UNESCO's Culture Sector. In addition to being an active member of the twenty-one member World Heritage Committee, which is dealing with very complicated and difficult issues, we continue to be interested in the U.S. funded program on museums and endangered movable objects. You will hear about this program later on in your meeting.

We will also try to make sure that UNESCO's various culture conventions, including the new conventions on intangible culture and cultural diversity, maintain their own specificity, which means that they must be implemented and governed by their own Intergovernmental Committees, and that efforts by UNESCO's Culture Sector to create linkages between these conventions do not succeed.

Of course our interest in education continues to be as strong as ever, particularly in literacy. The fifth of the six regional literacy meetings was just held in Azerbaijan, and the final one will be in Mexico in mid-September. These have been very successful, and have succeeded in raising the profile of literacy worldwide. Certainly this would never have happened without the leadership and personal commitment of UNESCO's Honorary Ambassador for the Decade of Literacy, Mrs. Laura Bush.

We will also continue to support UNESCO's work in EFA, and its efforts to promote

education at all levels, as well as to provide equal educational opportunities for girls, minorities, and disabled individuals. In this regard let me congratulate Benita Somerfield for being appointed to the Board of UNESCO's Institute for Lifelong Learning. Another American, Mark Schneider, was also recently appointed to the Board of UNESCO's Institute for Statistics.

We will also give continued strong support to issues involving freedom of expression, and in particular to the International Program for the Development of Communication. Thanks to the election of your former National Commission Executive Director, Marguerite Sullivan, to the Bureau of the IPDC, the U.S. was very influential at the recent IPDC meeting.

Upcoming challenges in this area will involve the safety of journalists and various issues relating to the World Summit of the Information Society, including topics relating to Internet governance like multilingualism and the ethics of access to information.

Other issues that may be very challenging for us in the future are the continuing pressures to use UNESCO as a way to turn social and economic goals into new "rights", and the differing ideas of what a "right" actually means. One example of this is discussion about a so-called "right to the city". Just as our efforts have led to a cessation thus far in the development of new conventions and declarations by UNESCO, we must make sure that we prevent what are described as "emerging rights" from being recognized by UNESCO.

We must also keep a close eye on issues involving bioethics, which is why we are pleased that the Director-General has named an American, Carter Snead, as an independent expert member of the International Bioethics Committee.

Although I have mentioned the names of Americans that have been appointed or elected to various UNESCO bodies, we are still very under-represented regarding Americans working in full-time positions at UNESCO. Please pay attention to UNESCO job openings, and do everything you can to encourage qualified Americans to apply for those jobs.

There is of course much more to say about our activities of the past year, particularly in the important area of cultural diplomacy. We organized a jazz night, the showing of the movie *Amazing Grace* on the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade, and a Fusion Arts concert with the State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs that featured eighteen young musicians from the U.S. and five other countries. UNESCO's biggest room, Salle 1, was packed for all these events, with more than 900 people attending the Fusion Arts concert.

On June 6th we are going to take a busload of Ambassadors to Normandy to commemorate the 64th anniversary of D-Day, and at the next Executive Board in October we are going to bring the terrific exhibition organized by the National

Endowment of Humanities, Picturing America, to UNESCO. Commissioner Bruce Cole, as well as Commissioners Ann Radice of the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Adair Margo of the President's Council on the Arts and Humanities, will participate in the exhibit's opening and closing events.

Since I am almost out of time, I'd like to end my remarks by mentioning the most important issue facing UNESCO and the U.S. in the immediate future, which is of course the election of a new Director-General at the General Conference in October 2009. This will be the first time in 27 years that the U.S. will be engaged in the election process.

The selection of a new Director-General is critical for the organization, not only because that individual gets to choose his or her cabinet and the senior staff, but also because approximately one-third of UNESCO's staff will reach the mandatory retirement age in the next five years. Moreover, since the U.S. has no veto at UNESCO, it is of the utmost importance for us that a new Director-General who is supportive of active U.S. engagement at that organization be selected.

The Chairman of the Executive Board is supposed to send a letter to all the delegations in June outlining the D-G selection process that took place last time. The process will be discussed at the October Executive Board, after which the Executive Board will send out a formal letter inviting individuals to apply for the position.

What makes this election process a bit awkward is that several candidates have already been actively campaigning for months. It is also unfortunate that although the U.S. really needs to play a major role in this process, both the State Department and the Mission will be facing significant changes in personnel and leadership. We must make sure that despite the transition to a new Administration, the U.S. voice at UNESCO remains strong during this crucial time.

So on that note let me say that it has been a real honor and privilege to have served as the U.S. Ambassador to UNESCO for the past four and one-half years, and to have been able to work with so many of you to promote our goals at UNESCO.

Although I expect to be in Paris for another six months, the time will go quickly, and I will not have another opportunity to thank all of you one last time for your enthusiasm and support, and to pay public tribute to my extraordinary staff at the U.S. Mission who have worked so long and hard to advance the interests of our country at UNESCO: Steve Engelken, my excellent Deputy Chief of Mission, Mike, Caitlin, Sally, John, David, Geoff, Holly, Robin, Sophie, Olivier, Amelia, and many others who have served at the Mission at one time or another.

I also want to pay tribute to our Deputy Assistant Secretary, Gerry Anderson, who has had the UNESCO portfolio at IO. Gerry has had to spend hours on the phone patiently listening to me fuss about one UNESCO issue or another, and he has frequently given me invaluable advice. Thank you Gerry, wherever you are!

Thank you also Susanna, Kelly, Alex, Laura, Emily, Ross, and all the other dedicated individuals at IO who have helped support the U.S. Mission during the past few years. What a ride it has been! Certainly I hope that our collective efforts have set the stage for the next team to continue to be successful with the U.S. engagement at UNESCO, and that their efforts, combined with your support, will enable that organization to contribute even more effectively to the advancement of peace and security throughout the world.

10:30 a.m. – Plenary Session Panel Discussion

Following a brief break, Mr. James Warlick, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of International Organization Affairs, introduced the panel of Louis Oliver, Susanna Connaughton, and Kelly Siekman. This plenary session was a question and answer session.

Question: Mr. Russel Jones, American Society of Civil Engineers

His question was in relation to the P5 technical capacity-building position that took years to be filled and was eventually filled by a non-engineer. He also expressed his disappointment over the termination of the overall science sector review committee.

Response: Ambassador Oliver

The P5 is a position that was created at UNESCO to try to strengthen the whole issue of capacity building in the sciences with emphasis in engineering. The competition for this position went on twice and they have not hired one of their internal candidates. We have not achieved anything since 2004. We are now in the process of determining the terms of reference for this person.

There is an internal task force which is charged with the implementation of the vast majority of the recommendations. Mr. Barbosa is working on individual work plan. Things are happening not publicly but under the horizon.

Question: Ms. Kathie Bailey-Mathae, National Academy of Sciences

The U.S. is currently about 90 million dollars in arrears to UNESCO. Can you talk about that and what is actually happening?

Response: Mrs. Kelly Siekman, Mr. James Warlick, Ambassador Oliver

Actually it is 60 million in arrears. The State Department cannot control the congressional appropriation. If we had our greatest wish we would pay it all on time and in full. We are going to pay our dues.

There should be transparency and accountability in all agencies. Modern auditing and procedures should meet standards for transparency and accuracy.

Question: Frank Hodsoll, Falls Church, VA

What about the money available for education, science etc.? What about public funding?

Response: Ambassador Oliver

It does not matter where the money comes from whether public or private what matters is accountability and transparency. Even the extra budgetary fund should require detailed oversight of the money.

Question: Mr. John Francis, National Geographic Society

His question was in relation to the effectiveness of time required to get things done within a multilateral organization. He was also interested in why UNESCO did not have a more robust form of communication. How much is put towards device and products-outreach products? How can the visibility of UNESCO be improved?

Response: Ambassador Oliver, Mrs. Susanna Connaughton

Ambassador Oliver: The President of the General Conference has organized an informal group to look at issues that are related to UNESCO's visibility. The World Digital Library, which was announced at this commission's meeting four years ago, is one of UNESCO's greatest stories of visibility, but that was because we organized the event at the General Conference. Publicizing is another way to help make UNESCO visible, but only good publicity is recommended. Because UNESCO covers a wide range of subjects, it is sometimes difficult for reporters to figure out what the organization is doing. Negative publicity spreads quickly, but we should not focus on that. There are complex issues to be dealt with. How do we deal with these complex issues? UNESCO's Bureau of Public Information is not doing the job it is intended for. Therefore, UNESCO needs to focus on its priority.

Mrs. Susanna Connaughton: Most Americans do not know what UNESCO is. We want to report good news and focus on the strengths of UNESCO. To build up recognition of UNESCO we have involved young people, for example, through The Laura Bush Traveling Fellowship and through their applications they also get to know what the mandate is. The World Heritage Tentative List also raised the awareness of UNESCO in America. Also, the meeting of the Museum Exchange Symposium created a network between the museums and preservationists in America.

Ambassador Oliver also added that some of the criteria that should be used when choosing the next Director General should build on what the old Director General has done. Additionally, the next Director General should be very articulate in public matters.

He must have a strong voice.

Mr. Warlick added that as world leaders in science they need to figure out how to get out the message in public.

Question: Dr. Jonathan Katz, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

Ambassador Oliver made a statement in her speech that the United States continues to be wary of foreign nations' attempts to slip language of "emerging human rights," a term the United States has reservations on, into declarations not directly pertaining to said issue. Could the Ambassador expand on her statement and define what an "emerging human right" is and why the U.S. does not support the concept?

Answer: Ambassador Oliver

We support the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. However, what happens is that from the basic human rights, new rights are extracted and added that are not in the Universal Declaration. We should not support the emerging rights. The UN worries about this because they are part of our mandate and as such, not appropriate for the UN.

The session adjourned at 11.30 a.m.

12:00 p.m. – Commissioner's Luncheon Address: Energy Security and Climate Change

The Honorable James L. Connaughton, Chairman, White House Council on Environmental Quality

The luncheon began with a short biographical introduction of the speaker, The Honorable James L. Connaughton, by Mrs. Susanna Connaughton.

Mr. Connaughton thanked the group and the UNESCO organization for inviting him. He used his speech to give an introduction to climate change and the world view on climate change. In addition, he gave the Bush Administration's position on the topic of climate change and emissions. He explained the U.S. position on climate change and how the U.S. is trying to move the globe forward on this issue.

Hon. James L Connaughton's Presentation:

There is a five to seven year cycle in the level of interest in climate change. The massive economic growth throughout the world has sparked a renewed swell in interest in climate change and the subjects pertaining to clean drinking water and the use of water for agriculture. Competition for clean energy and competition for clean water are coming together. Changes in world policies have happened because of the policies of

the current administration and the world interest in the subject of climate change. Numbers are important in order to find sensible solutions. Without numbers it can be very difficult to quantify and propose solutions.

Climate change is real. The earth is warming. It has been warming steadily since the time of the last ice age but the rate has been increasing over the last 100 years. The buildup of greenhouse gases which has allowed the earth to stay temperate has been increasing steadily throughout the 1900's. The buildup of greenhouse gases is very likely associated with the warm-up that we presently are experiencing in both model and perceived trends. The connection between current greenhouse gases and the current warm-up according to scientists is unequivocal. Science shows that people are likely contributing to the rise in greenhouse gases. This is not to dismiss the natural factors that also contribute to the addition of greenhouse gases. Three strands of scientists, meteorologists, solar specialists and *paleoclimate* supporters have contrary views and are having a vigorous debate as the causes and affects of climate change. The Enterprise funds all of these efforts. There are uncertainties to what it all of this means. There are two strands of thinking that are currently being supported by the foundation. Global regional and local effects of climate change are all being studied from incremental rises in temperature in the next 200 years. 1st strand - there is a high probability that temperature will rise gradually over time. 2nd strand - this is a low probability strand in which there is a catastrophic event as a result of or as a result of climate change. With the 2nd strand, there is a major climate shift that occurs in a time period where there cannot be proper adaptation. Mr. Connaughton works on both strands as a policy maker for the U.S. government.

With regards to the hierarchy of issues, coal firepower generation is roughly 50%, personal transportation 20%, and land use 20%. Ninety percent of the puzzle when it comes to climate change comes from the above issues. Too much time is spent on side issues other than those listed above. This has created a new conversation among largest economies and emerging economies who are the largest producers of greenhouse gases. A new conversation and dialogue has been started about how these economies can reduce their production of greenhouse gases and how they can work to reduce contributions to global warming. This summer, the leaders and representatives of the major emission producers will come together for the first time to discuss how these issues can be addressed. The leaders of these major countries have never sat down to discuss these matters before and this is one of the ways that the administration is changing the discussion.

Some of the topics of that conversation will include:

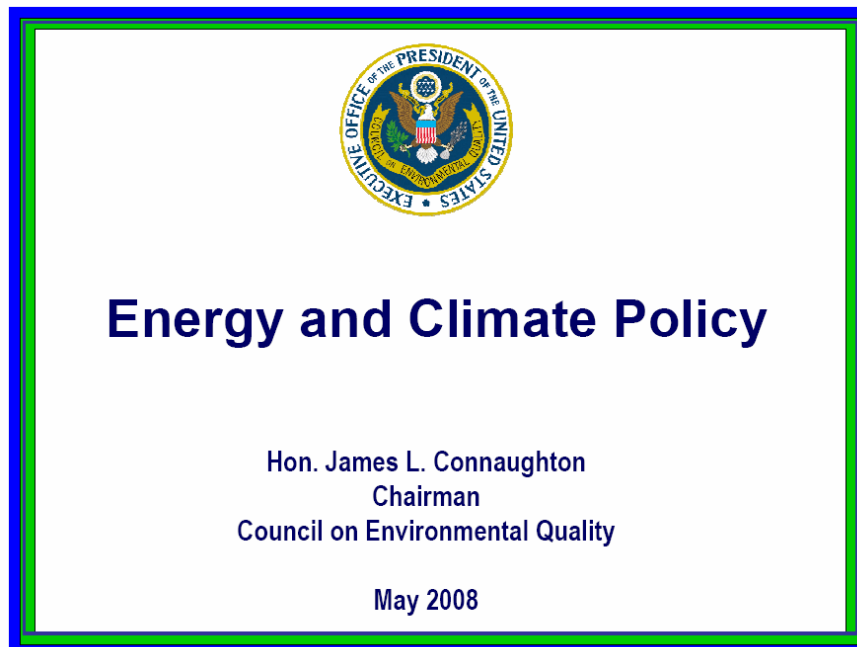
1. Can you create a long term goal for emissions? How fast can you get to that goal ultimately of zero emissions? This discussion must be straight forward.
2. Is each country ready to implement a national strategy and have that be a part of a binding international outcome? The U.S. is prepared to stand behind goals that are set forward by such an agreement. This approach will not work if all of the countries do

not agree. Republicans and Democrats agree that we should not join a binding agreement unless the other industrialized countries also sign on and live up to their agreements. How much bio fuel can we responsibly bring to the global market is a straight forward discussion. Who is the most efficient fuel producer on earth and why or how can the other countries be just as efficient is also a valid question.

3. Clean energy and services are often subject to higher taxes and tariffs. Mr. Connaughton added that he is pushing for lower or no taxes and tariffs on clean energy. There are very low tariffs on clean energy technologies in the US and Europe but high tariffs in the countries that need the clean energy the most. Leaders should be able to agree that we should be at zero tariffs for clean emission technologies.

A better and more consistent measurement system is also needed. With respect to greenhouse gas emissions, you have heard about the process of something called carbon trading. These are offsets. We really need to reach a global set of measuring tools so that a ton reduced in the U.S. is equal to a ton reduced everywhere else in the world. This is one goal of the summit set for the summer. There has to be international agreement on these types of issues as this is a global problem, and the Bush Administration continues to push to have the key framework determined this year. This subject is a collective problem that requires a collective solution.

The following power-point slides highlight Mr. James L Connaughton's presentation:



Key Elements of Major Economies Discussions of a Post-2012 Global Climate & Energy Framework

Specific to UN discussions over the next two years:

- Long term global goal for greenhouse gas reduction, consistent with economic growth;
- National plans that set mid-term goals
 - o Use mix of binding, market-based, and voluntary measures (mandates, incentives, partnerships)
 - o Must be environmentally effective and measurable
- Robust programs on forestry, adaptation, and technology access for all countries

Work we can start now:

- Sectors- technology development and mitigation strategies
- Elimination of tariffs and trade barriers for climate-friendly technologies and related services
- Improved measurement and accounting systems that can more effectively track progress

06/08/2008

US-EU Joint WTO Proposal on Elimination of Tariffs and Trade Barriers for Climate-Friendly Technologies and Related Services

Single Biggest Immediate Opportunity for Technology Transfer

- Two Prong Proposal
 - Eliminate tariffs and trade barriers for those 43 climate-friendly technologies and related services identified by the World Bank in the Doha Round by the end of this year;
 - Conclude even broader Environmental Goods and Services Agreement (EGSA) for 150+ environmental goods outlined in potential convergence set
- Current and potential trade of environmentally friendly goods and services:
 - Global trade of EGSA list was about \$623 billion in 2006 , growing at about 15% annually since 2000
 - Global trade in goods on a World Bank list roughly doubled from \$67 billion in 2002 to \$119 billion in 2005
- World Bank study concludes that trade in clean energy technologies could grow by 7-14% following the removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers
 - Study also indicates elimination of trade barriers could spur additional high technology investment
- WTO meeting in early May in Geneva. Critical that trade negotiators fully engage at this important meeting, when work will begin on specific products and priorities

06/08/2008

U.S. Mandatory Programs Since 2001 Eight Most Significant Sectors

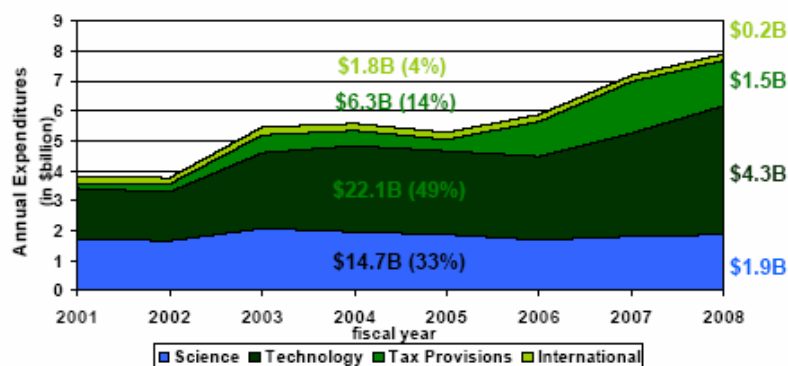
- **Renewable Fuels***
 - +500% by 2022; 36 billion gallons; ~15% supply
- **Vehicle Fuel Economy***
 - +40% by 2020; 35 mpg; avoid 8.5 billion gallons a year; ~5% supply
- **Lighting Efficiency***
 - +25-30% by 2012-2014; +70% by 2020
- **Appliance Efficiency***
 - +45 new standards
- **Federal Government Operations*** (bigger than most countries)
 - 30% Efficiency and 20% Renewable Fuel Use by 2015
- **Accelerated HCFC Phaseout**
 - More reduction than Kyoto; includes developing countries
- **Renewable Power**
 - 26 States; 500% increase to date; Federal government help
- **Building Codes**
 - Federal government promoting new 30% model code

* Preliminary estimates show that combined, these mandates will prevent 5-6 billion metric tons of GHG emissions through 2030.

06/08/2008

\$45 Billion Devoted to Climate Change Since 2001

BA and Tax Expenditures in \$ billions



Additional \$42.5 in Loan Guarantees Now Available

**Significant Portion of Proposed \$50 Billion Farm Bill
Conservation Programs for Sequestration**

Note: Numbers in the middle of graph are cumulative 2001-2008.

06/08/2008

U.S. Science & Technology Since 2001 Advanced Effort in Every Major Area

- **Fuels**
 - Bio-Diesel, Ethanol, Cellulosic-Ethanol, Bio-Diesel, Hydrogen
- **Vehicles**
 - Hybrids, Plug-in Hybrids, Biofuel, Fuel Cell
- **Fossil Power**
 - Efficiency, Carbon Capture and Storage
- **Nuclear Power**
 - Gen IV and Fusion
- **Renewable Power**
 - Advanced Solar and Wind
- **Zero-Energy Homes; Batteries; Advanced Materials**

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Domestic Partnerships

- **Climate Vision**
 - (14 Sectors and Business Roundtable)
- **Climate Leaders**
 - (100+ Company Leaders)
- **Carbon Sequestration Program**
- **Nuclear Power 2010**
- **Smartway Transportation Partnerships**
- **Energy Star and Natural Gas Star**
- **Federal Energy Management Programs**
- **Combined Heat and Power Partnership**
- **Freedom CAR Partnership**

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International Initiatives Since 2001

More Cooperative, Faster, Real Results

Global Action Programs

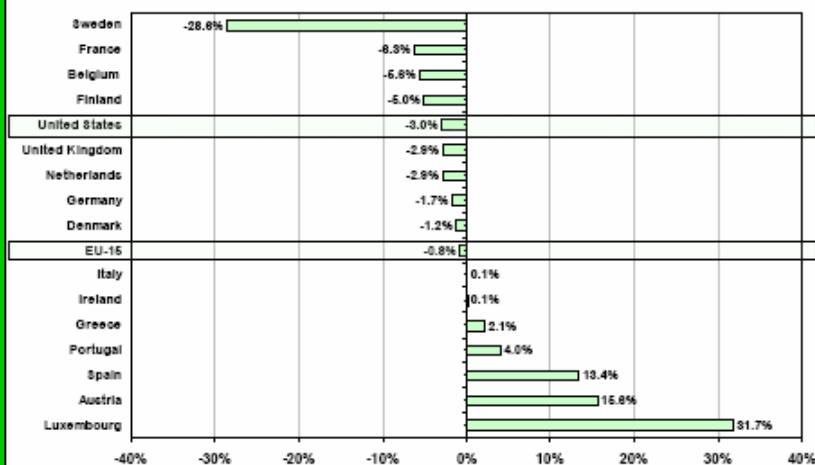
- Asia-Pacific Partnership (7 Nations)
 - Accounts for 50% of emissions
 - Nearly 100 actions
- G-8 Dialogue (13-20 Nations)
 - More than 40 programs
- Methane to Markets (20 Nations)
 - 180+ million tons reduced by 2015
- Renewable Energy and Efficiency (17 Nations)
- 12+ Bilateral Agreements on Technology and Lower Emissions
- Tropical Forest Conservation
- Stopping Illegal Logging

Technology Advancement

- Carbon Capture and Storage (22 Nations)
- Future Gen Coal (5 Nations)
- Hydrogen (17 Nations)
- Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (19 Nations)
- Gen IV Nuclear (10 Nations)
- Fusion Energy (7 Nations)
- Global Earth Observation (71 Nations)

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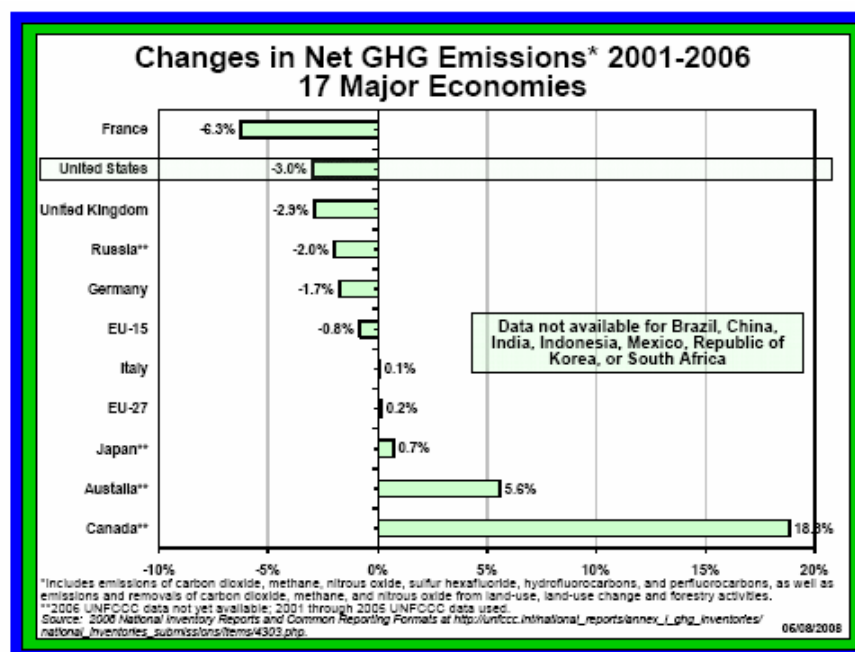
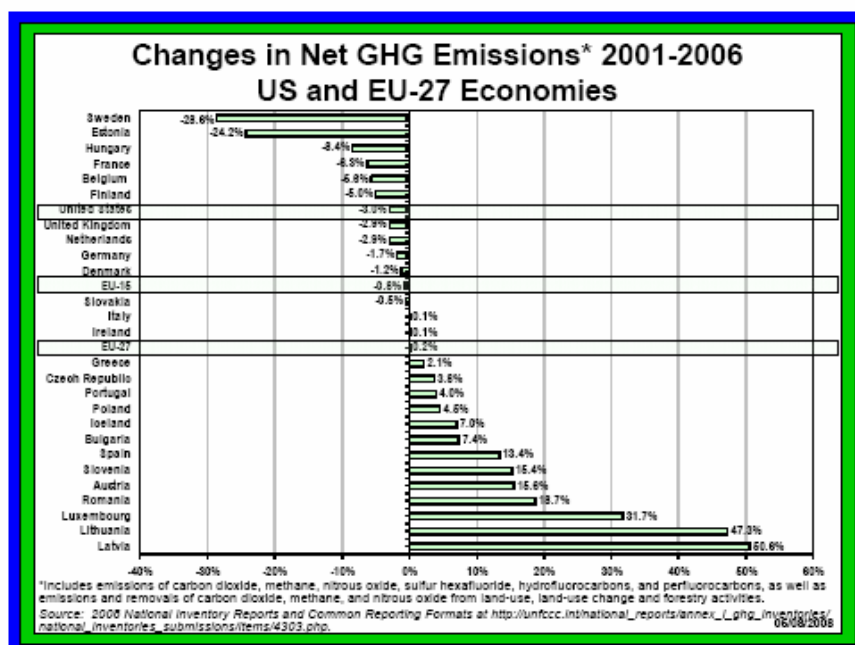
Changes in Net GHG Emissions* 2001-2006 US and EU-15 Economies

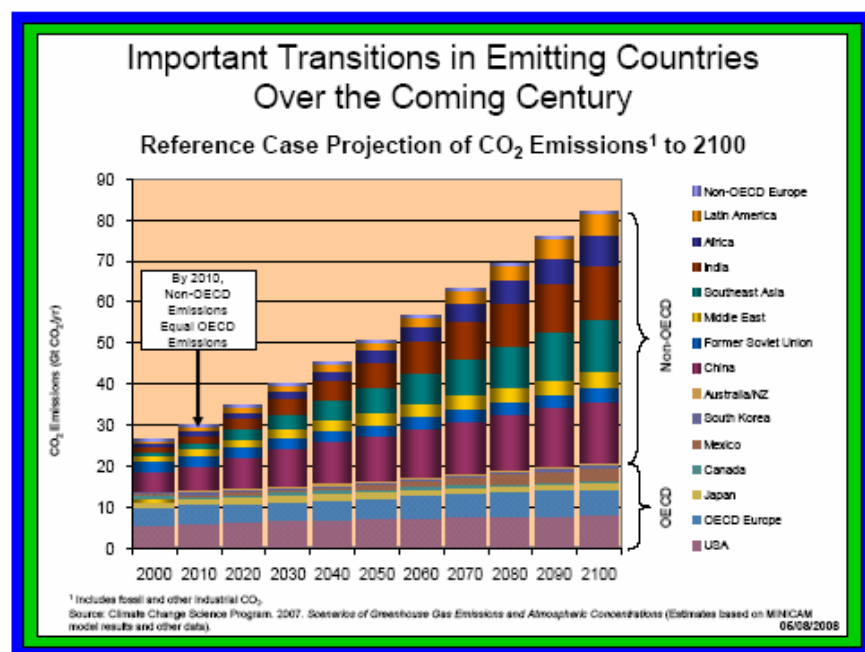
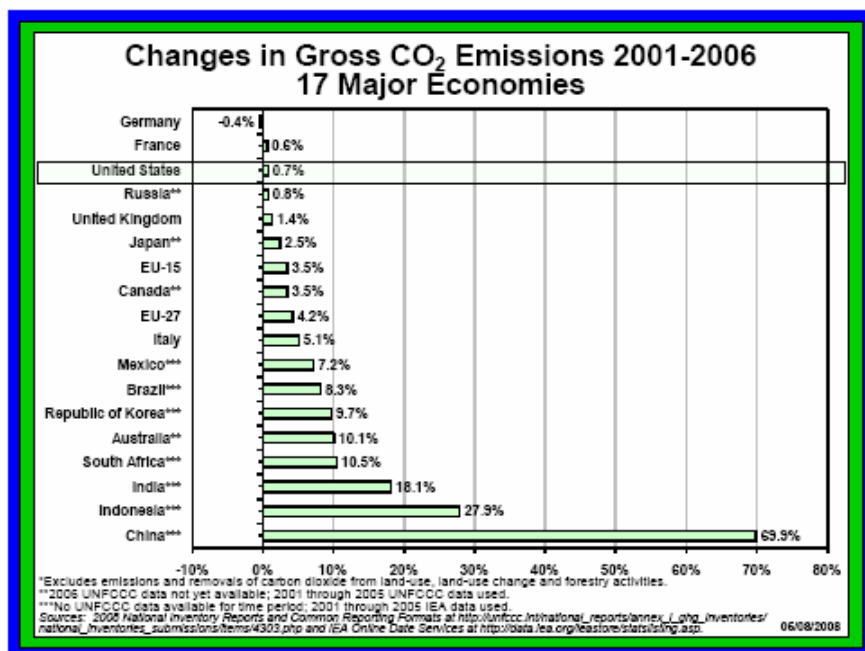


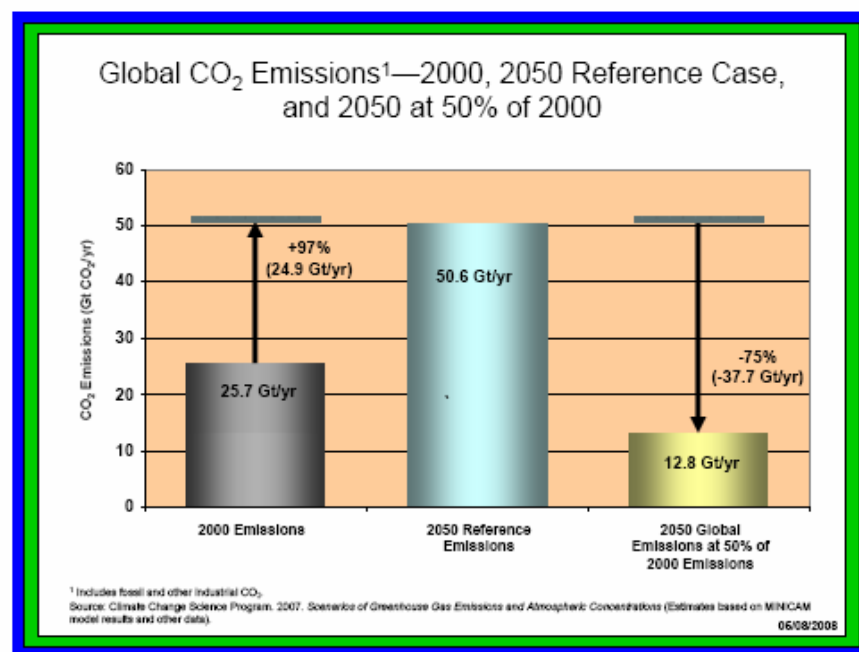
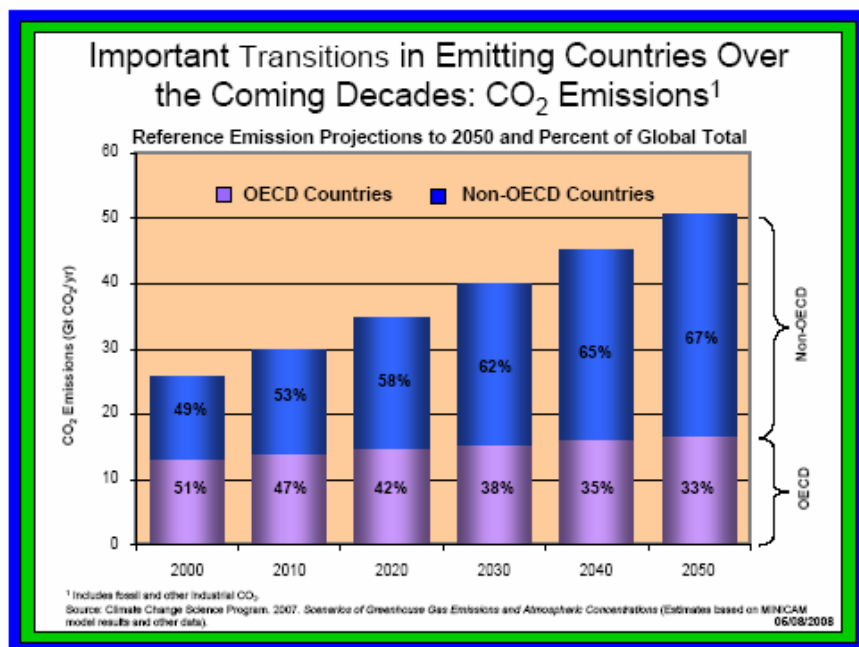
*Includes emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, sulfur hexafluoride, hydrofluorocarbons, and perfluorocarbons, as well as emissions and removals of carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide from land-use, land-use change and forestry activities.

Source: 2008 National Inventory Reports and Common Reporting Formats at http://unfccc.int/national_reports/annex_L_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/items/4303.php

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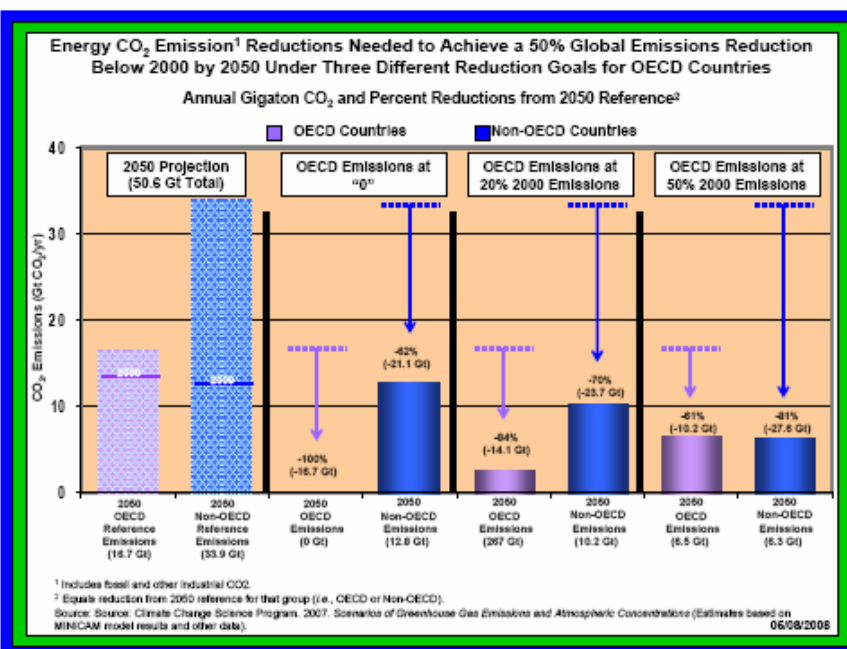




How Big is One Gigaton of CO ₂ ?	
Technology	Actions that Provide One Gigaton CO ₂ /Year of Mitigation or Offsets
Coal-Fired Power Plants	Build 273 "zero-emission" 500 MW coal-fired power plants <i>Equivalent to about 7% of estimated current global installed coal-fired generating capacity of 2 million MW</i>
Geologic Sequestration	Install 1,000 sequestration sites like Norway's Sleipner project (1 MtCO ₂ /year) <i>Only 3 sequestration projects of this scale exist today</i>
Nuclear	Build 136 new nuclear power plants of 1 GW each instead of new coal-fired power plants without CCS <i>Equivalent to about one third of existing worldwide nuclear capacity of 375 GW</i>
Efficiency	Deploy 273 million new cars at 40 miles per gallon (mpg) instead of 20 mpg - or at 17 km/L instead of 8.5 km/L
Wind Energy	Install about 270,000 1 MW wind turbines (operating at a capacity factor of 45%), roughly 3 times the global total installed wind capacity at the end of 2007.
Solar Photovoltaics	Install about 750 GW of solar PV, which is 125 times current global installed capacity of 6 GW*
Biofuels	Using existing production technologies, convert a barren area about 2 times the size of the UK (for a total of over 480,000 km ²)
CO ₂ Storage in New Forest	Convert a barren area greater than the size of Germany and France together (for a total of over 900,000 km ²)

Gigaton = 10⁹ Metric Tons (1000 Kilograms)
 *Instead of coal-fired power plants
 Source: Climate Change Technology Program Strategic Plan, September 2008.

06/08/2008



Comments from the PowerPoint Presentation

What do we have to offer? A policy plan for every aspect of the greenhouse gas problem is warranted. Work must be at the federal state and local level. The U.S. has more mandatory programs with higher levels of ambition to help with the reduction of greenhouse gases than any other country in the world.

The recent energy bill replaces 15% of our current energy with renewable fuels. This has raised some issues about food security. The discussion does push forward the conversation regarding second generation renewable fuels such as those made from grass and waste cellulose and agricultural waste. There can be a 40% improvement in fuel economy across the fleet. Front loading these mandates so that most of the savings will be on the early side of the mandates rather than on the back end means that these programs should reduce gasoline usage by as much as 20% by the year 2020.

Incandescent bulbs will be phased out by 2017 and there is a goal set for an increase in lighting efficiency of 70% by that time. The phasing out of the old style bulbs will open the doors for new lighting technologies. A co-benefit to the switch from incandescent lights is the reduction in the amount of cooling that must be done to counteract the heat of incandescent lighting.

The Federal government will actually be ahead of the private sector in their reduction of both CO₂ emissions and greenhouse gases. China and India have recently agreed to a reduction in HCFCs which are refrigerants used in refrigerators and air conditioners which are a large contributor of greenhouse gases. The U.S. has pushed for China and India to agree to reduce these gasses 10 years sooner than previously agreed and this will be equivalent to the reduction that the Kyoto protocol calls for if the countries were living up to the Kyoto protocol agreements, which many are not. This is an example of a binding international agreement that has not gotten much press.

The states have authority over renewable power and building codes, the Federal Government does not. Working with the states, we have increased our renewable power by 500%. This will equal a 10% level in the power grid of renewable fuels with a goal of 20% to equal that of Europe. With respect to building codes, the Federal Government has devised building codes for different regions of the country and is in the process of selling those concepts to the states. There is a role for the Federal Government in this area but there is also a role for State Governments for these types of advances to be achieved. If you add all of the reductions, the world emission levels will begin to flatten out in the short term and then by 2025 begin to have absolute reductions.

We also need to have technology advancement for these changes to continue. The U.S. has gone from \$1.7 billion to \$5 billion pledged in technology and research and development for reducing greenhouse gases and reducing climate change. The U.S. spends more money in the private sector on R & D than all of the other nations combined. If you subtract Japan from that equation, which spends most of its R & D on nuclear energy, then the U.S. spends the most money in the world on clean air technology systems. The other major producers of emissions must also be committed to reducing the emission and investing in R & D as well (i.e. India and China).

The U.S. has made \$42 billion available through loan guarantees available for large

scale power plant production, advanced coal system, and a large scale renewable power systems and wind mill power system and also integrated systems that mix these technologies altogether. This is real money available for real projects. Examples include low carbon initiatives for coal, hydrogen power with is a zero emission technology, fusion technology, and the research for the commercial use of fusion technology which is a much cleaner technology than conventional nuclear technology.

There is always a comparison between what the U.S. is doing and what Europe is doing. There has been a net reduction in greenhouse gases of 3% since 2001. European countries which live up to the Kyoto agreement have only had a net decrease of 0.8 %. With the addition of the new countries added to the European Union, there has been an addition of land mass the size of the Ohio River Valley. This is to mean that the same kinds of problems that are prevalent in the Ohio River Valley are also prevalent in the new portions of the EU. The EU must contend with countries like Sweden which is a very low emitter of greenhouse gasses versus countries like Poland and Bulgaria that are still very fossil dependent and also still connected to the Russian power grid. Despite the political differences, both the U.S. and the EU are about on the same level of reductions in greenhouse gases.

France, U.S., and UK are at the top of the list as far as curbing emissions. Australia and Canada still have significant rises in emissions. When China and India are in the equation there can be a significant contrast as these two countries are major polluters. Gross CO₂ emission puts the U.S. in third behind Germany and France. All of the numbers given predate the mandates that will soon come into affect so that after the mandate becomes effective the net affects will be even greater. If things did not change much in the developed world the levels of greenhouse gases would remain constant. Seventy percent of emissions will come out of the developing world over time. Although this means that the world is coming out of poverty, the effect on the environment could be dire. There are significant challenges from the emissions of the developing countries. There are 25.7 gigatons of emissions per year presently with a rate of 50.5 gigatons assuming a 6% economic growth rate worldwide by 2050. This means that 38 gigatons must be displaced by some means in order to meet the goal of cutting emissions in half by the 2050 date.

Coal Fired Power Plants

One gigaton equals 273 coal fired power plants with zero emissions. The U.S. will build the first one by 2013. The realistic goal would be a power plant with half of the emissions because of the technology needed but that would mean 1000 of such power plants to equal one gigaton of emissions through replacement. For perspective, China is installing one conventional power plant each week, which equals 50 plants a year that will not be zero emissions so the replacement of power plants in the U.S. will be negatively offset by China's building of conventional power plants.

Nuclear Power Plants

One gigaton equals 136 new nuclear power plants. The U.S. currently has 104 nuclear power plants and there are 400 globally. There would have to be a doubling of the number of nuclear power plants in order to produce the reductions that are necessary to reach the emission reduction goals. There will be a significant support of the gigaton saving through the increasing of fuel mileage standards from 20 to 40 mpg. This will take some of the pressure off the need for building new nuclear plants because the number of possible plants that can be built in the U.S. is six per year. There must be a shift in political will to build those plants. The technology exists but the willingness to locate and build the plants is what needs to be mustered.

Wind Energy

There are 74,000 windmills currently existing in the world. To get to one gigaton of emissions, one would have to have one million windmills. There are also the barriers that exist to get the transmission lines built to get the power from one part of the country to another. These would have to be extremely large windmills and there are some that do not like the look of such large devices.

Biofuel

One would need to take a land mass two times the size of the United Kingdom and convert that to biofuel production to have a net reduction in greenhouse gases. The US has the capacity to do this. Most countries do not have that capacity. There has to be a move to second-generation biofuel (fuel using grasses and other non food sources) but this would take a massive undertaking. Again this would take a change in the political will for this change to happen.

In conclusion, we must all do these efforts together. If all of the developed countries were to reduce their emissions to "0" by 2050 that would still require the underdeveloped countries to reduce their emissions by 60%. This would be an enormous undertaking. It is more realistic to have a 60% reduction by the U.S. then there would have to be an 80% reduction by developing countries. This is possible but it would be an aggressive and enormous undertaking. There is a less aggressive approach with the current science that can still achieve the goals under the current path. This will still allow there to be a stabilization of global emissions. For this to happen there must be an honest discussion with policy makers, the public, and science community.

Question and Answer Session

Comment and Question from Mr. Russel Jones (Representing the American Society of Civil Engineers): Mr. Jones is working with the rulers of Abu Dhabi helping them to reach total independence from oil and towards alternative energy in our lifetimes. His question was: how can we get people in the U.S. restarted thinking about alternative energy and oil independence?

Response: This is one of the most important questions. How do we get the engineers, workers and scientists trained and working in order to make the new technologies move forward? How do you structure the policies that have longevity within the government and will give the presidents of universities the confidence to build curriculums to support those industries? This is the great challenge for the U.S. because although we would like to build a mass of nuclear power plants to meet the needs of oil independence there is not the workforce to make that happen. There are simply not enough workers to make these facilities a reality. This conversation should begin to happen in upcoming talks this summer. Connaughton hopes that these types of conversations will lead to policy initiatives that will change the dynamic of the level of workers.

Question: Mr. Mark Bench (*Representing the World Press Freedom Committee*) asked about the prospect of using fusion for energy.

Response: The computing power of the 1990s was used to do the computing necessary to scale the prospect of fusion energy. There has been much theory about the use of fusion energy but it was only with adequate computing power that real projections could be made. There are 6 countries committing over 80 billion dollars to build the first large scale fusion reactor. The expected date is somewhere around 2050. In the meantime conventional nuclear is still a proven technology. If we could begin to reuse the waste for example this would be a significant advance towards fusion technology. There are linkages between the advances in technologies. For example, plug in hybrid vehicles are the first step toward hydrogen powered vehicles.

Question: Christopher Keane (*American Geological Institute*) asked Connaughton what are his greatest challenges and what are his greatest triumphs during his tenure.

Response: Climate change is deserving of discussion but it tends to take the majority of the space in discussions rather than the means of affecting the changes to stop climate change. Climate change consumes 95% of the top level leadership discourse. Topics like air pollution, water pollution, unsustainable agriculture practices, over fishing on our seas and the lack of marine resource conservation are equally important. Valuable discussion time is being spent on just climate change when those other topics also need to be addressed. In early 2002 there was a focus from developing countries on those other issues but in short order the focus has changed to solely climate change. Focusing solely on climate change does not advance the cause but focusing on those other issues will bring about a reduction in climate change.

Another major challenge is that there is a tremendous amount of time spent on very small differences of opinion. The stories that get the headlines are those that are in fact having smaller impacts than the greater issues that are either being resolved or are at stake. Because the issues are sometimes political and always passionate, the larger accomplishments by the Bush administration are sometimes underreported. The U.S. is taking the lead on items like limiting over fishing, clean air (through mandates), and Brownfield site reclamation (urban redevelopment).

Mrs. Connaughton thanked her husband, and she summarized the morning's sessions and outlined the format for the breakout sessions.

2:00 p.m. – Afternoon Breakout Session – Education

Commission Members Attending:

Peggy Blumenthal, Institute of International Education
Christie Brandau, State Librarian, State of Kansas
Noah Brown, Association of Community Colleges Trustees
John DeGioia, Georgetown University
Madeleine Green, American Council on Education
Kathleen Mellor, South Kingston, Rhode Island
Fary Moini, Rotary International
Marianne Toombs, Learning Disabilities Association of America

Presenters and Speakers:

Phyllis Magrab, Georgetown University
Joseph Carney, Office of Education, USAID
John Hatch, Office of Education, USAID
Gary Bittner, Office of Education, USAID

Public Attendees:

Dolores Adams, Federal Management Systems
Marianne Craven, U.S. Department of State
Christie Darling, Georgetown University
Ronald Jacobs, Ohio State University
Frank Method, Americans for UNESCO
Jessica Raper, Georgetown University
Stephanie Robson, U.S. Department of Education

Staff:

Emily Spencer, IO/UNESCO

The session on Education was chaired by Dr. John J. DeGioia, President, Georgetown University; Chairman, Committee on Education, U.S. National Commission on UNESCO.

Dr. DeGioia welcomed all in attendance. He thanked the Commissioners and members of the public who were present. Dr. DeGioia then outlined the day's session which included two panel discussions; one on Education and the other on the World conference on Education. These were to be followed by a discussion of two specific questions, then public comments and additional questions by the panel.

Each member of the panel introduced himself/herself. The first discussion topic was:

The Dakar Framework – Progress and Priorities. Perspectives on Building Quality Education Opportunities around the World.

Dr. DeGioia introduced the panelists given below:

- Dr. Phyllis Magrab, Director, Georgetown Center for Child and Human Development; UNESCO Chair on *Achieving the Promise of EFA: A Focus on Literacy and Sustainable Development*.
- Dr. Joseph Carney, Director, Office of Education; U.S. Agency for International Development.
- Dr. John Hatch, Basic Education Officer, Officer of Education, U.S. Agency of International Development.

Dr. Phyllis Magrab:

There is a new Assistant Director General of the Education Sector, Nicholas Burnett, who is well aware of the importance of Education for All (EFA). He established a working group on the monitoring report, to get recommendations to the high level group. He has a deep understanding of where we are in this process.

In terms of progress towards EFA goals, primary education attendance is up by 40 million. These are signs that things are going in the right direction. Gender parity at the primary level has shown improvement. However, there are some issues of gender parity and quality at the secondary level.

According to the most recent EFA Global Monitoring Report, in the 129 countries for which we have data, 51 have met the EFA goal related to primary school enrollment, 25 are behind and the hope of this goal by 2015 is grim. There are some deep underlying issues such as geographic disparity; teacher recruitment is also a serious problem; finance is another problem; 50 countries had increased their GNP share for education and 34 had decreased their GNP share. International and donor committees are not adequate.

While we see an increase in pre-primary enrollment, there is little progress in adult literacy; 774 million adults lack basic literacy skills. The only country that has shown vast progress is China. This is an issue that the U.S. has been very engaged in. Mrs. Laura Bush is the Honorary Ambassador for the United Nations Literacy Decade and has held two White House Conferences on the subject. As a result of the White House Conferences there have been five regional conferences so far: in Mali, China, India, Qatar, and Azerbaijan. There is one more scheduled for Mexico. The White House Conference highlighted features around health literacy, literacy for economic self sufficiency for literacy, and parent/inter-generational learning. However, they did not engage around the countries' plans such as the EFA, the Life Initiatives for Empowerment (LIFE), or the World Bank Fast Track Donor Plans.

Dr. Joseph Carney:

He takes an interest in how to help use resources in relation to EFA. He noted that there are still 774 million illiterate adults world wide and 72 million kids out of school (down from 96 million). He posed the question: how can America help the developing world in early childhood education? One idea was to encourage private sector support for education, veering away from the fallacy that all help must come from public financing.

In the mid-term monitoring report there were 96 million children out of school in 2000 and 72 million out of school out of school in 2008.

Areas to Worry About:

- Quality of Teacher Training
- Teachers knowledgeable about the material they are teaching - not just doing rote teaching
- Private and public resources

Dr. John Hatch:

There are 80 countries that are in the crisis state. Conflicts can affect education, for example, schools built amidst refugee camps, pay disruption, and the power of the gun above the power of knowledge.

How is education impacted by conflict & fragility? It is through the following:

- The curriculum
- Class or ethical or sectional solution
- Corruption – who gets admitted? How teachers are paid? Kids working on teachers farms
- General Literacy
- Elite schools
- The worry about shelter and clothing; roads
- The needs of youths not taken into consideration.

FTI (Fast Tract Initiatives) - What can be done to assess how fragility impacts education? The FTI is being re-written to take fragility in education into consideration.

Comments and Questions from Commissioners

Question - Mr. Fary Moini was interested in the transparency of funds.

Response - Dr. John Hatch mentioned that in some cases allocated funds to disappear before it reaches the district level.

Question – Ms. Marianne Tombs: We have a lot of experience in education in America, for example, Head start in early education, and Adult Education. How can we transfer some of these experiences?

Response – Dr. Phyllis Magrab: Use some of our models in other countries. This will create a relationship with other countries. There is minimum cost involved.

Comment – Mr. Gary Bittner: One of our successful models is the Community College model. Also, the process by which grandparents become literate is an excellent model.

Comment - Dr. John Carney: There are interactive radio and new text books programs, where the parents devour the books faster than the children. How do you replicate that model in developing countries without challenging our financial resources?

U.S. Perspectives on Issues for World Conference on Higher Education + 10

Dr. Madeleine Green, Vice-President, International Initiatives, American Council on Education; member, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

The role of the American Council on Education (ACE) was to work with the higher education committee. There was a series of preparatory meetings. Canada organized its preparatory meeting for World Conference on Higher Education. The Declaration adopted at the last World Conference on Higher Education covers a lot of wonderful principles. It is very broad based and it has strong aspirations for higher education.

Mr. Gary Bittner, Education Program Specialist, U.S. Agency for International Development

In 2006 there was a summit for higher education in the U.S. Recently, there was also a higher education summit for global development. There were about 350 people participating in the conference. They included 77 University Presidents from the U.S., 107 Presidents from foreign countries, 53 co-chairs and their representatives, and 5 cabinet members.

The objectives were:

1. To increase public and private partnership
2. To provide a platform for new and innovative approach for teaching
3. To stimulate thought relating new and higher education especially in areas of innovation and economic growth.

Commissioner Discussion Questions

Discussion of the Commissioners' questions then followed and recommendations were drafted from same.

Question #1: What is the ideal role for a multilateral organization in helping countries build capacities in education? What initiatives should UNESCO pursue in the Education Sector that are feasible, effective, and within its responsibilities?

Question #2: What education issues should the U.S. consider as we head into a year with several major internal education conferences? How can the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO contribute to those conferences?

EDUCATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee then produced their draft recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION 1

- UNESCO should increase its initiatives related to improving the overall quality of education, recognizing the attention placed on meeting the EFA goals as measured by the EFA Global Monitor Report.

RECOMMENDATION 2

- Share U.S. model/expertise in childhood education, adult literacy and engage Commissioners to identify and promote models that could be applicable to other countries as they pursue the EFA goals.

RECOMMENDATION 3

- Improve education data collection capacity in countries to inform, drive and improve in-country decision making with regard to education.

RECOMMENDATION 4

- Promote the importance of developing and identifying opportunities for public/private partnerships and other ways to leverage non-governmental funding for education.
- Consider building staff capacity in this area, through innovative mechanisms not necessarily tied to the regular assessed budget.

RECOMMENDATION 5

- UNESCO should consult with local business communities to identify and strengthen the link between education and job creation/economic development, focusing specifically on out-of-school youths, and career and technical education within the framework of EFA.

RECOMMENDATION 6

- Strengthen UNESCO's field offices in education, specifically focusing on teacher training.

RECOMMENDATION 7

- Identify in-country NGOs that could help countries in transition rebuild education systems – encourage UNESCO and its regional/country offices to be active with its initiative.

RECOMMENDATION 8

- Focus on the need to increase the level of transparency in member countries applied to funding streams for rebuilding education systems.

RECOMMENDATION 9

- U.S. should develop a mechanism for input into the planning of the World Conference on Higher Education, that includes the higher education community, the NATCOM, and relevant partners to identify priority themes which may include:
 - The community college model
 - Programs related to innovation, growth, and entrepreneurship
 - Life long learning
 - Quality assurance
 - Protecting scholars

RECOMMENDATION 10

- Continue its role in information sharing and national and regional capacity building in higher education quality assurance, including the promotion of diverse models and actors, including NGOs.

The session was then opened for public comment. No members of the public expressed a desire to speak.

The session was then adjourned.

2:00 p.m. – Afternoon Breakout Session – Natural Sciences and Engineering

Commissioners Attending:

Kathie Bailey-Mathae, National Academy of Sciences
Amy Flatten, American Physical Society
General Hank Hatch (ret.), Oakton, Virginia
Russel Jones, American Society of Civil Engineers
Christopher Keane, American Geological Institute
Alan Moghissi, Institute for Regulatory Science
John Steadman, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
LaJuana S. Wilcher, Board Member, Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana

Presenters and Speakers:

Matthew Larsen, U.S. Geological Survey
Elizabeth Tirpak, U.S. Department of State/ IOC Committee
Richard Calnan, U.S. Geological Survey

Public Attendees:

John Daly, Americans for UNESCO
Arthur Paterson, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Verne Schneider, U.S. Geological Survey
Crystal Simpson, Federal Management Systems
Shira Yoffe, U.S. Department of State/ OES

Staff:

Ross Corotis, IO/UNESCO

Session was coordinated by General Hank Hatch (ret), Chairman, Committee on Natural Sciences and Engineering, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO.

Report from the U.S. National Committee for IHP

Dr. Matthew C. Larsen, Chief Scientist for Hydrology, United States Geological Survey; Chair, U.S. National Committee for the International Hydrological Program.

Summary of Dr. Matthew Larsen's power point presentation is as follows:

Themes

- Adapting to the impacts of global changes in river basins and aquifer systems
- Strengthening water governance for sustainability

Strategy

- Develop support for UNESCO Category 2 centers
 - ICIWaRM was submitted to UNESCO in January '08
 - Approved by IHP bureau March '08

- Will be considered in June '08

Focus Areas

- Advocacy
- Research
- Capacity building
- Safe drinking water
- Global climate change

Recommendations of U.S. National Committee for IHP

- USG influence within sphere of UNESCO-IHP activities would be significantly enhanced if a modest level of funding is provided in support of USG strategy and action plan
- Funding will be focused on education fellowships to UNESCO, establishment of UNESCO chairs at US universities, technology fellows, and an operation budget for the US national IHP Committee
- Endorse plans and budget for the Water Forum in June '08, and Irvine meeting in December '08

Comments by Dr. Matthew Larsen:

IHP has been guided by a 5 year science plan since its inception. The foundation of this pillar of themes is engaging capacity building, hydrological research, and water resources management.

In 2007, IHP developed an initial approach strategy for how the US National Committee for IHP would engage Phase VII and the US Government goals. This recommendation was approved. Part of the recommendations that were brought up was a strategy for a Category II Center. UNESCO has one Category I Center, which is considered the mother-ship, the IHE Center in Delft, Netherlands. There are a couple dozen Category II Centers around the world.

One of the things embarked upon this past year was an effort to solicit proposals for Category II Centers and develop a process to evaluate them. Two proposals were submitted, one from the International Center for Integrated Water and Resources Management (ICWaRM), and another from the Center of Advanced Materials for Purification of Water (Univ. of Illinois). The proposal from ICWaRM went on to be approved by the IHP Bureau in March 2008, and it will be considered during the next Intergovernmental Council meeting of IHP.

The other big component of what has been discussed in the last year or so with the International Committee is how we actually engaged with IHP Phase VII. Currently, the Committee has no budget so one of the goals is to develop some models and make suggestions to get minimal funding to help implement some of the activities.

There are about 20 members in the International Committee, 6 are from federal agencies and the other 14 are from NGO's and universities. Another goal is to find ways that our membership in the program can get their institutions to engage with Phase VII through existing programs in their institutions.

Comments and Questions from Commissioners

Question – General Hank Hatch (ret): You are not directly asking for U.S. Governmental funding for this?

Response – Mr. Matthew Larsen: We are trying to think creatively. We have just gotten to the point where we are organized enough now in some of our activities that without some effort to develop some funding recommendations, we are limited to what we can do. If we do not have funds to bring students to these training opportunities, we are not doing much. At this point it will depend largely; at least initially assuming the Army Corps Category Center (i.e. ICWaRM) is approved, on the fact that they already have a budget for bringing people in. We have a zero budget. We hold all of our meetings in Washington, DC. The National Academy graciously gives us meeting space coffee, and donuts.

Question – General Hank Hatch (ret): Does anyone have any objections to our endorsing the concept of raising money for the purposes mentioned?

Response - Commissioners: No one objected.

Report from the U.S. National Committee for IOC

Mrs. Elizabeth Tirpak, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, U.S. Department of State.

Summary of Mrs. Elizabeth Tirpak's power point presentation is as follows:

Success Stories

- Emphasis on good management practices
- Secondment of essential staff via contract hires, secondments, and direct hires
- Reinforce US policy objectives (data, GEOSS)
- Influence UNESCO level discussions regarding Science Sector Review and the future of IOC and Climate Strategy

Challenges

- Building consensus around IOC's future

Strategy 2008-2013

- Prevention and reduction of the impacts of natural hazards
- Mitigation of the impacts and adaptation to climate change and variability

Recommendations

- IOC's future - concur with IOC general mission and biennial strategy focusing on societal goals
- Priority setting and sustainability – USG elevate the IOC GOOS program as a core program for all of IOC work. USG give higher priority to implementing GOOS/IOOS at US national level to achieve US benefits and credibility in the international arena
- Endorse the IOC/WMO Joint committee on Marine Meteorology's Observing Program Support Center, essential to facilitating access to GOOS data globally
- Endorse GOOS Implementation plan as a means to address issues of sustainability, scale, and relevance
- Encourage data standards

IOC Visibility

- Establish commission support for committee through an operational budget for participation in IOC meetings
- Broaden Federal Interagency participation in U.S. IOC policy review and delegations. Committee will present to NSTC/JSOST to encourage U.S. commitment to coastal and global ocean observations.
- Encourage the Commission, through the Committee, to participate on advising on U.S. participation in the IOC's 50th anniversary highlighting enhanced public awareness as key outcome

Comments by Mrs. Elizabeth Tirpak:

The purpose of our group is essentially to advise the US Government on IOC matters. It was created roughly a year ago. This year we had 13 members and the difference between the IHP National Committee and the IOC National Committee is that there are no U.S. Government members on The IOC National Committee. We really wanted to make sure that the resources were available to litmus test the U.S. Governments ideas on what our priorities should be before the IOC, and so far so good. We did have 3 new members come aboard this year, some west coast representation on oceanography, the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, and an additional DC based organization called the Marine Technology Society. So I really feel that we have quite a big crowd to give us the advice that we need for IOC issues. Furthermore, the discussions that we have focused on are US priorities in the IOC.

As you all may have been aware, because I believe you were all involved earlier this year reviewing the Committee's recommendation, the IOC has been involved in the U.S. Government's response to a questionnaire regarding the future of the IOC. Let me take this opportunity to thank all of you for being so very responsive in giving

your feedback to the U.S. Government. What we find is that very few governments actually did provide as a thorough response to the questionnaire as the U.S. did. I think that there were 7 governments which I would consider provided a legitimate response to that questionnaire, and that's a real shame when you consider the IOC has 136 member states. So, there are lots of things to improve upon at the Secretariat level.

Comments and Questions from Commissioners

Question – General Hank Hatch (ret): I would like to point out that IOC is a little unusual in UNESCO. If you see some of the wire diagrams you see the IOC sitting off to the side with a dashed line. So, this questionnaire, for those of you who are not familiar with it, asks us questions like, “Should the IOC be in or out of UNESCO?”; “Should the IOC be totally independent?”; “Should the IOC be a part of some other UN program?” It asked a lot of very tough questions. Basically, the U.S. made the decision to keep the IOC where it is.

Response – Mrs. Elizabeth Tirpak: And indeed that position that we took actually resonated with the majority of the countries that participated in a meeting on this questionnaire that happened in February. Overall, the group that met to consider the future of the organization also agreed that the current mission of the IOC is still spot on, it is still what we feel is needed and necessary in terms of intergovernmental engagement in oceanographic programs.

One of the other things that were addressed was the management of issues and the prioritization of issues. The U.S. was not as pleased with how much progress was made in this particular area. We were pleased to have the Committee address this very issue, how do we narrow the focus such that the organization can be more effective in its current realm of activities. We found that in having the Committee involved we have also been able to reinforce some very key U.S. policy objectives. The Committee has really reinforced our sense of what those policy objectives are. For instance, the IOC is known for promoting an open exchange of oceanographic data and that has been part of their agenda and we anticipate will perhaps be a greater part of their agenda as oceanographic data are being collected by autonomous type vehicles as opposed to people. Also we find that our Committee has helped us in UNESCO level discussions in making sure that we are aware of things that are on the radar of IOC.

The IOC rethought its mission in terms of societal benefits. The thought behind that was this might resonate better on the UNESCO level in terms of drawing connectivity between IOC's mission and that of UNESCO. We think we have seen evidence of that because IOC is the only program to receive an additional flow of cash that was not originally proposed.

Question – General Hank Hatch (ret): Does anyone have any objections?

Response - Commissioners: No one objected.

Description of the International Geological Correlation Programme

Mr. Rich Calnan, Chief of International Programs, United States Geological Survey

Summary of Mr. Rich Calnan's power point presentation is as follows:

Goals

- Promote exchange of ideas, data, and techniques among diverse scientists around the globe
- Encourage and assist in the training of geo-scientists especially in lesser developed nations
- Enhance quality control of geological science

Financial Problems

- Since 1986 DOS appropriated funds to National Academy. The U.S. Government gives IGCP about \$75,000/year

After the U.S. rejoined, UNESCO wanted to govern to increase contributions, and create a U.S. National Committee for IGCP. The U.S. National Committee for Geosciences will serve as a subcommittee. Since 1972, IGCP has done 400 projects in 150 countries.

Comments by Mr. Rich Calnan:

I came to discuss an unusual program called IGCP which is a long abbreviation for a very small program which is called the International Geoscience Program. The reason I am here is because in addition to my day job at USGS I serve on the U.S. National Committee for Geological Sciences. The reason it is called IGCP is that it was originally the International Geological Correlation Program. Some time around 2002 they shortened it to the International Geoscience Program. IGCP is a small joint program between UNESCO and IUGS (International Union of Geological Sciences). It has been in existence since 1972 and operates on a budget of \$300,000 to \$500,000 a year. IGCP functions as a small grants program with the average grant running about \$5000. It is used as a travel fund to ensure international cooperation in geological sciences. The purpose of the typical grant that gets funded is to allow a scientist in a lesser developed country to undertake travel to join a scientist from a developed country on a geological research project. The program is very small, very simple, very cost effective, and very economically efficient.

Committee discussion of the Appropriate Role of the UNESCO Science Sector on the Subject of Climate Change

Committee Discussion on Science and Engineering Capacity Building

Comments by General Hank Hatch, (ret.):

Capacity Building

Capacity building is defined as encompassing a country's human, scientific, technological, organizational, institutional and resource capabilities. A fundamental goal of capacity building is to enhance the ability to evaluate and address the crucial questions related to policy choices and modes of implementation among development options, based on an understanding of environment potentials and limits and of needs perceived by the people of the country concerned. It includes but is not limited to:

- Human resource development, the process of equipping individuals with the understanding, skills and access to information, knowledge and training that enables them to perform effectively.
- Organizational development, the elaboration of management structures, processes and procedures, not only within organizations but also the management of relationships between the different organizations and sectors (public, private and community).
- Institutional and legal framework development, making legal and regulatory changes to enable organizations, institutions and agencies at all levels and in all sectors to enhance their capacities.

Capacity Building Timeline

- Jan. '03 - drafted EBW - "Engineering for a Better World" concept
- May '04 - Discussions with DOS, WFEO and UNESCO
- June '04 - Preparation of U.S. resolution with U.S. Mission to UNESCO
- April '05 - Strong support by WFEO and its members
- April '05 - U.S. resolution to UNESCO Executive Board, 23 co-sponsors
- April '05 - Executive Board welcomes the establishment of a unit within the sector to coordinate activities in capacity building
- August '06 - 2nd advertising of P5 Capacity Building position

Current Situation

- UNESCO inaction for three years
- New position reports to ADG and Div. Chief for Basic Sciences
- First U.S. resolution after rejoining UNESCO approved with essentially no action in three years

Recommendations

- U.S. National Commission for UNESCO urges the USG to register its continued grave disappointment in the lack of progress in the "Creation of a Cross-sectoral Program in technical capacity Building", i.e. water, engineering, and technology.

- USG should support the creation of the “new unit” called for in the Executive Board decision (171EX-64) and support the UNESCO Secretariat in realizing the goals of the approved U.S. resolution.
- Understanding that UNESCO has initiated an internal task force to implement many of the program review recommendations. The Commission recommends that UNESCO (later changed to the task force) engage the original Review Committee in the process and that UNESCO provide periodic reports on their progress.

The session was the opened for public comment. No members of the public expressed a desire to speak.

The session was then adjourned.

2:00 p.m. – Afternoon Breakout Session – Social and Human Sciences

Commissioners Attending:

Nigel Cameron, Institute on Biotechnology and the Human Future
James P. Kelly III, The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies
Janice Smith, The Heritage Foundation

Public Attendees:

Steven Groves, The Heritage Foundation
Thora Jenkins, Federal Management Systems
Richard Nobbe, American for UNESCO

Staff:

John Hoff, U.S. Mission to UNESCO

This session was coordinated by Mr. James P. Kelly III, Director, International Affairs, The Federalist Society; Chairman, Committee on Social and Human Sciences, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO.

Mr. Kelly called the meeting to order and stated that certain developments have transpired in Paris UNESCO in relation to Ethics Bioethics and normative instruments.

Discussion on Bioethics

Mr. John Hoff, Health Attaché, U.S. Mission to UNESCO began his presentation by stating that they have had a successful year and that UNESCO has been focused on joint action and productive work.

Mr. Hoff started the discussion by looking at the non-normative work of the Social and Human Sciences Sector. He described several programs, including the one for Assisting Bioethics Committees (ABC), which supports the creation of and operation of

bioethics committees in various countries. Mr. Hoff said that the National commission could provide support, if interested, in two ways: 1) by giving money and 2) giving in-kind support – lending people who can help the ethics committees in developing countries get organized and operating.

Mr. Nigel Cameron then commented that there needs to be a vast canvassing of regulations like the NIH regulations on human subject research. He said that no other country has a body like the President's Council on Bioethics, which has connected with the policies. Generally, there are bodies in the world that do help to shape the policies. The UNESCO Paris Office of the Social and Human Sciences Sector has two additional persons who are responsible for the ABC project. They are looking to a team of experts, money or people to go and advise the committees. It is a good effort; however, it would be helpful if some of those countries had a bioethics infrastructure/ framework. The question is whether this committee would make a recommendation to the Department of State, to consider assisting the work of the Social and Human Services in the ABC project.

Mr. Hoff, in discussing the Ethics Education Program (EEP) of the Social and Human Sciences Sector said that SHS is developing and supporting teaching programs in bioethics around the world including the development of model legislation. They are also having conferences around the world to discuss bioethics and the role of National Commissions.

A third major activity of SHS is the Global Ethics Observatory (GEObs). This is an online database covering a number of topics in bioethics in all six languages of UNESCO. It includes a list of "Who's Who in Ethics", a list of ethics Institutions, a list of Ethics Teaching Programs. It is also a database of ethics legislation and guidelines and codes of conduct.

Mr. Hoff reminded the session of the effort a couple of years ago to have the Director General do a feasibility study on the development of a normative instrument on the ethics of science. There was a concern that this study could quickly degenerate into issues not properly considered to be matters of ethics, such as what research should be conducted, publication policies, and intellectual property. This effort was defeated; instead the Director General is reflecting on the effectiveness of the existing normative instruments that affect scientific research.

With regards to staffing at the National Commission Secretariat, it has to be staffed to the point where there could be someone at the technical office of the National Commission level who can broker the relationship between Paris and the institutions in the U.S. to help with the Assisting Bioethics Community project and the Ethics Education project. There is excitement about the prospect of having someone who could possibly help the Social and Human Science Committee and at the same time have a connection in the U.S. and a relationship with the Paris office. This person could also help with the on-going dialogue about what is it is needed, whether it deals with codes, conducts, best practices or ethics education or the creation of a National

Bioethics Committee.

Following the discussion the group recommended that the Department of State and the President's Advisory Council become engaged and cooperate; ensuring that UNESCO respects the authority of the National Commission Executive Secretariat in making arrangements for the those programs in the United States.

The Commissioners then decided to discuss the Recommendations and drafted the following:

SOCIAL AND HUMAN SCIENCES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 1

- USG should cooperate with the UNESCO SHS sector for the development and training of national bioethics committees in countries requesting UNESCO assistance by taking advantage of the expertise of the National Commission and other relevant institutions.

Mr. John Hoff presented a brief description on the Committee for Ethics of Scientific Knowledge Science and Technology (COMEST). The committee is an advisory body and forum composed of eighteen independent experts. Its mandate is to formulate ethical principles that help the Director General, member states, and commissions, in making decisions. Mr. Hoff went on to say that COMEST holds meetings and talks about various ethical issues, and that COMEST occasionally issues publications. The topics it has dealt with include:

- Ethics of Science
- Ethics of Energy, Technology
- Ethics of Nanotechnology
- Ethics of Outer Space
- Ethics of Space Technology
- Ethics of Water Use
- Ethics issues related to Creative Innovative Technology – access to Low- Tech Technology
- Ethics of Environment
- Engaged in awareness- raising capacity- building projects

Mr. Hoff talked about an interesting issue during the COMEST “informal” meeting in July 2007. He said that the United States delegation and the delegation for India showed up at the meeting and were asked to leave. The Mission and UNESCO legal counsel are in the process of discussing whether it is legal under the UNESCO rules to exclude Member States from observing “informal” meetings of COMEST and other Category V committees. UNESCO counsel has agreed that they cannot deny the delegations attendance at their meetings but contends that they (COMEST) can hold “private”

meetings. Mr. James Kelly further stated that the rules complement the Constitution and agreed that COMEST does not have the authority to do so. Category V Committees are independent experts appointed by the Director General to advise him and the General Conference.

RECOMMENDATION 2

- USG should express its expectation that COMEST and other Category V advisory committees should, in the interest of transparency and accountability, adhere to existing rules permitting Member State representatives to attend and observe all of their meetings.

RECOMMENDATION 3

- USG supports UNESCO's promotion and dissemination of the principles set out in the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights; however, it should continue to object to efforts by the UNESCO Secretariat or UNESCO advisory committees to directly or indirectly interpret the Declarations provisions.

The fourth recommendation follows from the main objective of the Global Charter agenda of Human Rights in the City, described by Mr. Kelly. The Charter-Agenda expressed that each Human right in the charter should have the following structure:

- Formulation of the right
- Obligations derived for the signatory cities – that is to say rights/facilities for the citizens
- Commitments assumed, progressively, by the city in subsequent periods of time
- Elements or indicators proving the achievement of the right

The concern of the Commissioners resulted from the activities of UNESCO partnering with other world organizations for the promotion, development, and implementation of the Charter of Human Rights in the City and bypassing national governments as well as national commissions. This situation undermines the member states' status with UNESCO.

RECOMMENDATION 4

- USG should insist that UNESCO should not participate directly or indirectly, in the development or implementation of the global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City or any other human rights instrument, agreement or plan not expressly negotiated and approved by UNESCO Member States.

The session was then opened for public comment. No members of the public expressed a desire to speak.

The session was then adjourned.

2:00 p.m. – Afternoon Breakout Session – Culture

Commissioners Attending:

Ford Bell, American Association of Museums
Ronald Bogle, American Architectural Foundation
Bonnie Burnham, World Monuments Fund
John Francis, National Geographic Society
Sandra Gibson, Association of Performing Arts Presenters
Frank Hodsoll, Falls Church, VA
Murray Horowitz, American Film Institute
Richard Kurin, Smithsonian Institute
Jonathan Katz, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
Adair Margo, Chairman, President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities
Anne-Imelda Radice, Director, Institute of Museum and Library Services
Martin Teasley, Eisenhower Foundation
Andre Varchaver, Americans for UNESCO
Timothy Whalen, Getty Conservation Institute
Robert Wilburn, Gettysburg Foundation

Presenters and Speakers:

Gustavo Araoz, Vice President, U.S. ICOMOS
Kate Dodson, Deputy Director, Sustainable Development, UN Foundation
James Fitzpatrick, Arnold & Porter
John Fowler, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Laurent Levi-Strauss, UNESCO
Philippe de Montebello, Metropolitan Museum of Art
Stephen Morris, National Park Service
Louise Oliver, Ambassador, U.S. Mission to UNESCO
Martin Sullivan, Director, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery
Raymond Wanner, UN Foundation

Public Attendees:

Caleb Brutus, Federal Management Systems, Inc.
Peggy Bulger, Library of Congress
Tim Curtis, UNESCO
Anita Difanis, Association of Art Museum Direction
Andrew Finch, Association of Art Museum Direction
Christine Kalke, National Endowment for the Humanities
François Langlois, UNESCO Almaty Office
Christian Manhart, UNESCO
Odette Ponte, USDA, Executive Leadership Program
Samuel Sidibe, National Museum of Mali
Marta de la Torre, UNESCO Consultant
Nancy Weiss, Institute of Museum and Library Services

Staff:

Laura Gritz, IO/UNESCO

The session was coordinated by Mr. Frank Hodsoll, Vice-Chair, Committee on Culture, and Chair, World Heritage Subcommittee, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO.

Mr. Frank Hodsoll opened the session by welcoming the attendees and announcing that he was standing in for the Chairman, Dana Gioia, who could not be in attendance but has a keen interest in the subject matter. Mr. Hodsoll expressed his hope that the Committee will render some good advice, through the full Commission, to the Government on the issues for discussion. He then proceeded to lay out the agenda for the Committee, which included four (4) main topics as follows:

1. The World Heritage Program
2. Sustainable Tourism
3. The US/ICOMOS Symposium and Preserve America Follow-up
4. Exchange in Cultural Property: Looking to the Future

Mr. Hodsoll expressed that he looked forward to presentations by the excellent presenters and also mentioned the UNESCO Museum Program for which an exchange will take place. Mr. Hodsoll stated that this is a public meeting and that there were a number of members of the public, under the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

As a “quick report” from last year, Mr. Hodsoll stated that the Committee adopted eighteen (18) recommendations last year, all of which were adopted by the full Commission. Out of the 18, ten (10) have been implemented and have resulted in on-going efforts; two (2) remain under consideration, and none have been rejected.

World Heritage Program

Report of U.S. Tentative List and Potential Nominations

Mr. Stephen Morris began by bringing the Committee up to date on where things stand with the Tentative List. Shortly before reporting to the Committee last year, some thirty-five (35) applications had been received for consideration to be included on the Tentative List. A lot of progress had been made within a year and a formal list has been submitted to UNESCO, which will be “blessed” by the World Heritage Committee at the upcoming meeting in Quebec, and we are moving forward expeditiously with first two new nominations.

Mr. Morris gave a “quick run-through” of the 14 sites that were included on the Tentative List and were part of the January press release when the decision was made. The Commission’s role, particularly through the World Heritage Subcommittee, was very helpful and critical in arriving at a decision on the Tentative List. A Federal Register notice is about to be released announcing the new nominations.

Mr. Morris then proceeded to offer a “visual” overview of the various sites that are included on the Tentative List, the cultural sites are as follows:

1. The Civil Rights Movement sites in Montgomery and Birmingham, Alabama
2. The Dayton Aviation Sites in Ohio, associated with the Wright Brothers
3. Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks, Ohio, which date back to the Woodland Period around 1,000 to 2,000 years ago
4. Thomas Jefferson Buildings: Poplar Forest and Virginia State Capitol
5. Mount Vernon, Virginia – the argument being made on behalf of this site is as a cultural landscape of 18th Century American South based on English model; it's not being put forward specifically for its association with George Washington
6. Poverty Point State Historic Site, Louisiana – vast complex of earthen structures on the Bayou on the west bank of the Mississippi River, dating back 1700 to 1100 years ago, at one time the largest settlement in North America
7. San Antonio Franciscan Missions, Texas – a unit of the National Parks system, although the churches are still being used in ownership of the Roman Catholic Church, built in stages from 1724 to 1782
8. Serpent Mound, Ohio – largest documented surviving example of a prehistoric effigy mound in the world
9. Frank Lloyd Wright Buildings, Arizona, California, Illinois, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin – 10 properties representing the span of his entire career

Finally, we have one mixed natural and cultural sites and four strictly natural sites:

10. Paphanaumokuakea Marine National Monument, Hawaii – an extraordinary site, 1200 miles long
11. Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary, American Samoa
12. Okefenokee Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, Georgia
13. Petrified Forest National Park, Arizona
14. White Sands National Monument, New Mexico

The World Heritage Committee limits countries to no more than two (2) nominations per year. We have announced our nominations in the Federal Register and received public comments on the first two possible nominations, which are the Hawaiian site and Mount Vernon. We received approximately 18 comments back, which were largely positive, although there were some expressions of concerns regarding Mount Vernon. The concerns being not only the Committee's reluctance to nominate sites associated with political leaders but also about the authenticity and integrity of the site as a result of restoration works. Mount Vernon is working on a response to these concerns, and they believe they are prepared to make a strong case.

With regards to the calendar, draft nominations need to be submitted to the World

Heritage Center by the end of September, and the Office of International Affairs is working both with the co-trustees of the National Marine Monument in Hawaii as well as the Mount Vernon Ladies Association on these nomination documents. By the end of this summer, we will assess whether the nomination dossiers are strong enough in order to go forward.

The Federal Interagency Panel, which is required by regulation to provide advice to the Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Interior on nominations, reviewed the Tentative List as well as the comments and provided their own recommendations. They were completely in favor of the Hawaiian sites, but had some concerns about Mount Vernon mirroring those of the public comments. They are willing to wait and see through the end of this summer and assess whether the case for Mount Vernon is strong enough to go forward. The Federal Interagency Panel is comprised of: the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Smithsonian Institution, the Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, the National Park Service, the State Department, and the Council on Environmental Quality.

Report on Christchurch World Heritage Committee Meeting and World Heritage General Assembly – Mr. Stephen Morris, Chief, Office of International Affairs, National Park Service

The last meeting of the Committee was held in New Zealand last summer, late June to early July. One of the major things that happened is that the Committee added 22 cultural and natural sites to the World Heritage List, bringing the total to 851. They also did something unprecedented in 30 years, which was the removal of a site from the World Heritage list. It was a site in natural site in Oman, the Arabian Oryx Sanctuary. The main reason for removing the site is the decision by Oman to reduce the size of the site by 90%. So in the end the Committee decided that the Omani site no longer had outstanding universal value and had to be removed.

For the U.S. one of the more significant things that took place in Christchurch was the removal of the Everglades National Park from the Danger List. With the removal of Everglades, the U.S., which has had two sites on the Danger List, no longer has any site listed as being in danger.

Related to the Danger List, the Committee was very concerned about the construction of a proposed bridge in Dresden, Germany. The Committee feels that if the construction of the Bridge moves forward, Dresden will be removed from the World Heritage List.

There was a meeting of the 16th General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention at UNESCO in October. So we will have a new Committee; nine (9) new countries were elected to the 21-member World Heritage Committee, including a number of Arab states, causing a considerable shift in the regional balance with fewer European countries and more Arab states.

There was a serious debate both at Christchurch and during the General Assembly about the election process for the Committee, as to whether it should be by regional block. This would be a departure from the way the election process for the World Heritage Committee has been conducted, whereby every part of the world votes for particular members to the Committee. There was a strong feeling among the Committee members that the existing election process should remain unchanged, and that this is a convention that is meant to take a global view of things, and breaking things down by regional would contradict the purpose of the Committee. An open-ended working group, in which any States Parties can participate, has been established to deal with this issue, and it will be reporting to the next General Assembly in 2009. In the meantime there are a series of discussions in an attempt to make some progress on this issue.

Overview of Issues for World Heritage Committee Quebec Meeting – Ambassador Louise Oliver, U.S. Permanent Representative to UNESCO

Mr. Hodsoll, in introducing Ambassador Oliver, underscored her outstanding diplomatic skills at Christchurch on behalf of the U.S. Government and her extraordinary contributions toward resolving the disputes.

In her introductory remarks, Ambassador Oliver remarked that while education and science are like the brain of UNESCO, culture is really the heart of UNESCO and is of fundamental importance.

Christchurch Meeting Report

The issue concerning Oman is a matter of principle. What really angered a lot of the Committee members was that the Sultan on his own changed the border of the site, without consulting the Committee and requesting the change.

This action goes at the heart of the “process” and is related to some fundamental principles. Ironically it got into sovereignty issues:

If a country puts a site on the list, can it then turn around and take it off the list if it so desires?

This is somewhat of a grey area. Once a site is on the list, does it not then belong to the people of the world? Is it, in fact, under national sovereignty? There would be a public outcry if a country were to decide to remove a very public site from the list.

In the case of Oman, it got very close to these issues. It got awkward when it became clear that one of the main reasons for the Sultan to change the borders of the site was, in fact, that oil had been discovered on the site.

The endangered list is supposed to be a mechanism by which problem sites are highlighted, and by which countries can focus on how to cut the number of those sites.

It is supposed to be a positive process: The problem is that for most countries, it is considered a huge insult to go on the endangered list. As such, they will fight to stay off the list, partly because there is a sense that once they are on the list, it is a “lifetime sentence” and they will never get off. So the example of the Everglades going on the list, having a plan developed, and coming off the list represents a model of exactly what the endangered list is supposed to achieve.

Quebec Meeting

The Preah Vihear temple is in fact in Cambodian territory. There is no question about that since the International Court decided that. As such, Cambodia does have the right to put it on the list. The issue is that many sites these days tend to have “buffer zones”, and almost the entire buffer zone of the site is located in Thailand. So the issue is how Cambodia and Thailand can cooperate on the site. The ideal situation would have been for the two countries to come to a cooperative arrangement, but that was not achievable since the relationship between the two countries does not exist for that. So it has been a real problem, and last summer it became quite a crisis. In the end the site was not put on the list last summer, due to all the unanswered questions.

One of the major issues is that there was no management plan for the site. The problem is that typically when you put a site on the World Heritage list without a management plan, it eventually ends up on the endangered list. So now we are insisting that a site has a management plan before we decide to put in on the World Heritage list, in addition to its universal value and all the other criteria.

The decision we were able to reach was as follows:

- Cambodia has to make significant progress toward development of a management plan;
- The management plan should include close cooperation with Thailand.

The issue we are going to have to deal with in Quebec has to do with whether the terms of that decision are met, and whether the management plan is in fact a management plan. At the moment, close cooperation is a bit questionable, especially since there is no structure at the moment whereby the Cambodians and Thais are willing to work together.

This is a very tricky situation especially in light of the major significance of Preah Vihear to the Cambodians and its symbolic importance to them. The Cambodian government was very upset about the issues surrounding Preah Vihear, and they have made it their number one foreign policy issue in general. Part of the reason is that World Heritage sites have become engines of development.

This situation does not just present a preservation issue but it is a major international political problem. If the site does not get inscribed on the list, Cambodia will be furious, and if it does get inscribed Thailand will be furious. We all have relations with both

countries.

When Ambassador Oliver visited Cambodia in late November, she went to see the site. She insisted that in order for her to fly to the site onboard a Cambodian helicopter, the Ambassador from Thailand had to be invited to come along as well. He was invited along with Ambassadors from various other countries, including Australia, France, and Japan.

So this is one of the most difficult issues that will have to be tackled in Quebec. At this point, there is no sense how this is going to be worked out.

Jerusalem

The Mughrabi ascent is the only access into Temple Mount and Haram El-Sharif for non-Muslims.

The agreement last summer was that the Jordanians and the Israelis “discuss” their plan with each other, but the dilemma was there was great difficulty to agree on a terminology (e.g., the word meeting) that could be deemed acceptable to the parties. The Committee finally latched onto the term “encounter”, which the parties agreed to. So there was an “encounter”; the Jordanians had a plan, and the Israelis had a plan. Then there was a follow-up, and then a second follow-up.

This is a very difficult situation, and we do not know how it will play out. As we have heard, there has been a change in the “balance of power” among the Committee members, with now five (5) Arab States constituting essentially a block.

One interesting thing that took place is that the Jordanians had planned an informal meeting on May 22 to discuss these issues, and it appears that the meeting has been postponed. So it appears that this issue will linger on with no resolution until Quebec.

Dresden Valley

There are talks underway as to whether there should be a bridge or a tunnel built there, but there was a court case in Germany that ruled that the bridge had to be built.

The Congo

The Ambassador mentioned that one of the issues for consideration in Quebec would be the Congo, where there are still tremendous problems with the gorillas as well as park rangers being killed.

What was arrived at in Christchurch was something called a “monitored initiative”, whereby in situations such as Jerusalem and the Congo where there is a problematic site, one does not have to wait a whole year to come back with a report but a monitoring group could look into the situation and make an interim report on the site to the

Committee.

The Technical Advisory body went on to say that none of these sites had outs.

In conclusion, the Ambassador stated that there is universal agreement that the preservation, protection, and conservation of outstanding cultural heritage sites is one of UNESCO's major roles. This program, which covers some 851 sites, is subject to a number of pressures, such as the issue of "buffer zones"; the issue of conservation versus development; pressures in development areas, particularly in African countries where there are local populations living in sites. The sets of issues are becoming very complex.

So in the past there used to be at these meetings technical experts who understood what conservation really meant. Now these meetings are attracting various economic interests such as ministers, high-level government officials, reporters waiting on the phone wanting to know if a site has been inscribed.

The pressures are enormous. So the most important decision we face, not only in Quebec, but onward is to ensure that the credibility of the list is maintained. If UNESCO allows these decisions to be made for political and economic reasons, allowing itself to be subject to pressures from Ministers or anyone else, rather than the focus on outstanding universal value, the whole program will become threatened. So it is crucial that UNESCO keeps the technical standards high and not allow itself to be perceived as making a political decision on these sites.

Mr. Hodsoll thanked Ambassador Oliver for her presentation. Then he invited Mr. Gustavo Araoz to briefly describe the role of ICOMOS on the cultural heritage sites and to talk of the pertinent issues as he perceives them.

Comments US/ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) – Mr. Gustavo Araoz, Vice President, U.S. ICOMOS

Mr. Araoz described ICOMOS as a non-governmental organization with 9,000 members worldwide, whose sole specialization is the conservation and protection of cultural heritage sites. For that reason, ICOMOS was billed into the Convention text as a statutory advisory and body. So ICOMOS evaluates every single cultural site that is nominated to the World Heritage list, and also monitors the state of preservation for every site on the list.

In its evaluation of nominated sites, ICOMOS considers the following criteria:

- 1) the site's universal value
- 2) the site's state of conservation
- 3) the site's authenticity
- 4) the site's integrity (which means whether there is enough material left of the site to tell the story)

5) the site's protection, in terms of legislation, management, budget, personnel

ICOMOS is fortunate to be much freer from political pressure.

Tangible vs. Intangible Conventions

In terms of what is happening at ICOMOS at the international level and related to the upcoming Committee meeting in Quebec, one of the important issues that has to be discussed relates to "Intangible" as opposed to "tangible" heritage. This is becoming very important as we realize the inter-dependence between these two types of heritage sites. We are concerned that these 2 conventions are heading into separate directions, and that would be contrary to what we are trying to accomplish in terms of conservation of all heritage sites.

ICOMOS does not have the active role it would like to have in advising UNESCO on the "intangible" convention. We are also concerned that a number of countries that are very active in World Heritage are not considering ratification of "intangible" heritage convention. This means that the 2 conventions would continue on their divergent paths, and that would be problematic.

Nomination of Buenos Aires

As an advisor to the municipal government that puts forth the nomination for the City of Buenos Aires, I did not participate in the Committee proceedings. So because I am a member of the ICOMOS panel that evaluates this nomination, I did not sit in these proceedings.

Buenos Aires is the first nomination of its kind that addresses a historic city as a historic urban landscape, which offers a broader concept of what a historic city is or what a heritage resource is. This nomination brings into focus the entire complex dynamic between "tangible" and "intangible" values. This is a very exciting, ambitious and courageous nomination on the part of Argentina in that they are committing to preserving a huge portion of the City of Buenos Aires that is very crucial to the development of the City and, at the same time, they are committed to preserving the "intangible" aspect of the City as a Heritage site.

The nomination of Buenos Aires will be a test case. I am not sure what the final recommendation was from ICOMOS, as I did not sit in the proceedings. This is something interesting to watch because even if Buenos Aires does not make it, it does signify a trend and the direction in which the Heritage movement is proceeding.

Committee Recommendations on Tentative List, World Heritage Program, and World Heritage Center

Mr. Hodsoll proceeded to open the discussion for recommendations, first from the

Committee members, then to the general public. He began by mentioning that one of the things that Ambassador Oliver was able to accomplish in Christchurch and later in Paris was to influence the Secretary General, and the Director General in particular, to have a better management system at the World Heritage Center. So as a result of the Ambassador's work, the Director General agreed to post a very senior person to be the Deputy to Mr. Francesco Bandarin, who is the Director of the World Heritage Center.

Mr. Hodsoll then offered the following two recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION 1: That members of the U.S. National Commission actively support the search for a strong U.S. candidate for the post of Deputy Director, who can operate in the international arena, with language skills in English, French as well as Spanish, very strong managerial skills and the facility to work in complicated international bureaucracy.

RECOMMENDATION 2: That the U.S. Government do everything possible to maintain the credibility of the World Heritage program, whose main purpose is to be vigilant in maintaining and monitoring the outstanding universal value of common heritage of everyone and not just of one particular nation.

With this, Mr. Hodsoll opened the floor for discussion and further recommendations, which focused primarily at refining the language of these two recommendations.

One commenter said that she was favorably impressed with the whole idea expressed by Ambassador Oliver that we insist on the integrity and the outstanding universal value of Heritage sites.

Another commenter stated that while she understood the spirit of Recommendation 2 is to focus on the "technical" aspect of the Convention, when we talk about universal value of a site, those universal values are in fact "intangible". They might be embodied in the material that we have left, but it's very difficult to maintain the integrity of the site without preserving those intangible values. When the World Heritage Convention started to move away from archaeological sites into individual buildings, cities, and cultural landscapes, it started to take into consideration an enormous number of intangible values of the communities on those sites. That has to be taken into consideration because of the intangible values disappear, the tangible values of those sites will also disappear. So the objective should not be to give priority to one over another, but rather to maintain both.

Mr. Hodsoll suggested a "slight rearrangement" of the agenda and turned to the topic "Exchange in Cultural Property: Looking to the Future".

Exchange in Cultural Property: Looking to the Future

Mr. Hodsoll introduced this segment by pointing out that when the decision was being made as to whether to include this in the agenda, he gave his full support to its

inclusion. He acknowledged the controversial nature of the subject but believed that the Committee could have a debate and discuss the subject matter. Mr. Hodsoll believed that it is, nevertheless, an important topic that has been debated for decades and even centuries.

There are 3 key Conventions, two of them under UNESCO's auspices:

- The 1954 UNESCO Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of War
- The 1970 UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property
- The 1995 International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects

As a framework for the ensuing discussion, Mr. Hodsoll stated that the discussion would focus on:

- Preventing the illicit transfer of cultural properties between nations

The United States being a party only to the 1970 Convention, which was ratified by the U.S. in 1983 in conjunction with the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act (CCPIA). The convention is not self-executive, and the U.S. Congress came up with what is described as a compromise.

Mr. Hodsoll stated that our purpose here today is “to look to the future.” We are not here to have a philosophical debate about the past, but rather to find a better and more systematic optimal balance on what, Mr. Hodsoll believes, are the 3 underlying considerations that are involved here (which are incorporated in the preamble of the 1970 Convention):

1. The interchange of cultural properties among nations increases knowledge, enriches cultural lives, and inspires mutual respect and appreciation
2. Every state must protect cultural properties within its borders from theft, clandestine excavation, and illicit export
3. Cultural institutions should ensure that their collections are built in accordance with universally recognized moral principles.

Exchange in Cultural Property: Looking to the Future – 1970 UNESCO Convention by Mr. Laurent Levi-Strauss, Chief, Section Museums and Cultural Objects, Culture Sector, UNESCO

Mr. Levi-Strauss began by thanking the Commission for inviting him to the session. Then he proceeded to give an overview of the various mechanisms put in place to combat the illicit trade in cultural heritage.

In introducing his remarks, Mr. Levi-Strauss stated that the illicit trafficking of works of art constitutes one of the four major illicit trades in the world. To combat this form of illicit trafficking, a set of measures have been adopted by the international community, including inter-governmental bodies such as the World Customs Organization, UNESCO, INTERPOL; NGOs such as ICOM.

Such measures include the 1970 UNESCO Convention, to which approximately 120 Countries are parties.

The role of this Convention is threefold:

1. Preventive measures: The prevention of acquisition by museums of illegally exported cultural properties, and prevention of the export of properties stolen from museums or similar institutions;
2. Restitution provisions: The restitution of such illegally exported cultural properties to the State of origin;
3. International Cooperation: The establishment of an international cooperation framework to facilitate concerted actions by all parties to control the international trade of cultural properties, in the event of pillage of archaeological and technical materials.

However, the Convention alone is not sufficient to prevent the illicit trafficking of cultural properties. As such, UNESCO recommends that each Member State take steps to strengthen their own legislation.

- The establishment of the status of ownership by national authorities
- The establishment of a clear legal regime
- The establishment of specific export certificate for cultural objects
- The establishment of international registries to ensure the use of identification standards in the event of theft, to regulate the operation of antique dealers, and to ensure that these measures are properly and efficiently implemented

UNESCO further recommends the use of a UNESCO database for cultural heritage properties, which is being enlarged and updated on a continuous basis.

UNESCO also recommends the adoption of International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property, the ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums.

In particular situations, such as Iraq, there is a mobilization of the international community on the basis of international trade laws regulating international commerce of specific materials when the heritage of a State party is in jeopardy from pillage.

There is also Resolution 1483 of the UN Security Council, which bans the traffic in cultural heritage which has been exported from Iraq since 1990.

UNESCO also seeks to reinforce this UN Resolution through a campaign of sensitization among its Member States.

In cases where the provisions of the UNESCO Convention apply, cases are usually resolved by votes or through negotiated agreements. When the Convention is not applicable, the main avenue for settlement is for the parties to work toward reaching a mutual agreement.

There also exist other avenues for dispute resolutions that are complementary to the 1970 UNESCO Convention.

Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation, which has been adopted by UNESCO in 1978 to deal with more exceptional cases generally outside the scope of these international treaties.

U.S. Implementation of the UNESCO Convention – Mr. Martin E. Sullivan, Director, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery and former Chairman, Cultural Property Advisory Committee

The Cultural Property Implementation Act (CCPIA) dates back to 1983. So it has been 25 years since there has been in the United States a mechanism to attempt to participate in the Convention.

The Convention itself presents some complexities for world signatories. The U.S. has chosen not to implement the Convention itself but to assess the urgency and the necessity on a case-by-case basis under the Cultural Property Implementation Act.

Advisory Committees – make determination about request for support by the United States in addressing matters of concerns to other State parties. In making such determination, the Committee considers the following factors:

1. Evidence that the cultural patrimony of the country making the request to the U.S. is in fact in jeopardy;
2. Evidence that the country has taken appropriate steps to protect its cultural patrimony;
3. The assessment by the U.S. is made in concert with comparable actions that have been taken by other nations;
4. Preservation of the “large vision” of the Convention by ensuring that taking a certain action will not chip away at the worldwide exchange of cultural objects that the Convention facilitates.

Strasbourg Seminar Discussion – Dr. Anne Radice, Director, Institute of Museum and Library Services; Member, U.S. National Commission to UNESCO

At the Strasbourg seminar this spring, there were about 65 people in attendance from

around the world, including policy makers from various countries.

The following topics were discussed:

- Mechanisms for dealing with indemnity issues worldwide
- Standardized loan agreement
- Importance for libraries and museums around the world to establish relationships with each other
- Conservation and preservation

At the end of these discussions at Strasbourg, the participants were asked to go forth and do something. One of the key ideas emphasized was the concept of establishing lasting relationships and “friendships” among the various local and international institutions.

Potential Improvements to System – Mr. Martin E. Sullivan, Director, National Portraiture Gallery

In speaking of improvements, Mr. Sullivan emphasized three points in particular:

- The need for building capacity of museums in the various source countries to house and care for objects
- The need for building partnerships that facilitate exchanges and long term loans among museums
- The need for concerted efforts to establish standards and measures to protect cultural properties and discourage the spread of black markets

Framework for Legal Markets – Mr. Jim Fitzpatrick, Senior Partner, Arnold & Porter

In terms of cultural properties, there are two basic elements: the 1970 UNESCO Convention and the 1983 Statute, which are two separate documents.

Congress made a determination not to agree with either of these two competing sides, but instead chose to set up a Committee that would hear requests made to the United States.

Mr. Fitzpatrick stated at the outset that everybody abhors looting as it is an uncontrolled undertaking performed by non-professionals, which leads to the destruction of sites.

When it comes to looting, the issue is determining the most effective approach for dealing with the problem.

Mr. Fitzpatrick offered the following two approaches to dealing with the problem:

1. Multinational response from market countries to the problem of looting

2. Development of a legal market which would minimize the impact of the existing black market

Mr. Fitzpatrick spoke strongly against the idea of any nation imposing wholesale embargo on access to its cultural heritage and antiquities. World heritage does not belong to a particular group but to the world.

Importance of Legal Markets – Mr. Philippe de Montebello, Director & CEO, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Museums are not on the side of dealers or collectors, or on the side of source nations. Rather they are concerned with the preservation, publication and public display of the world's heritage.

In his presentation Mr. Philippe de Montebello made the following points:

- The markets in the West do not constitute the “buyer” markets in the illegal trade of antiquity
- The loss of the world heritage from looting and illegal markets vs. loss of world heritage through natural disasters, development projects, and tourism
- The establishment of legal markets should be a discussion that goes well beyond this gathering in Washington
- The need to reestablish the concept of *partage* in joint excavation as a form of long-term loan
- The need to encourage joint archaeological excavation of sites
- An unpublished site is in as much danger as a looted site

Following the presentations, the culture committee formulated the following draft recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION 1:

That members of the U.S. National Commission actively support the search for a strong U.S. candidate for the vacant D1 management position at the World Heritage Center.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

That the USG do everything possible to maintain the credibility of the World Heritage program, whose main purpose is to be vigilant in the maintaining and monitoring of continuing outstanding universal value of monuments and sites which are the common heritage of mankind.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

That the USG consider its position on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

It is important that the U.S. Cultural Property Advisory Committee (CPAC) process has adequate transparency and that advice given by CPAC implements all the obligations of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of cultural Property and its implementing statute.

RECOMMENDATION 5:

U.S. implementation of the multinational requirements of both the CPAC Convention and its implementing statute should reflect the balance of considerations in those documents.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

Encourage UNESCO to study the potential of improved and expanded legal markets in reducing looting and theft, and black markets.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

UNESCO should encourage source nations to protect antiquities and sites within their territories and promote capacity building to this end.

RECOMMENDATION 8:

UNESCO should study alternatives based on long-term loans and exchanges (e.g. ten years or more), for the sharing of cultural property among all nations without transfer of ownership.

This might include possible exchanges based on joint participation in archaeological projects, training and infrastructure support.

RECOMMENDATION 9:

UNESCO, building on and maintaining momentum from recent activities, should underscore the role of sustainable tourism as an important tool in heritage conservation. Among the good examples of best practices in this area is Mesa Verde, New Mexico.

The Commission should encourage the Director General to enhance staffing and provide funding for a World Heritage Center sustainable tourism section.

UNESCO and its Member States should encourage adequate support for the World Heritage Center's advisory bodies in supporting sustainable tourism best practices.

UNESCO should undertake a study of the impact of tourism on cultural and natural heritage, and develop and compile guidelines on best practices to be disseminated in an organized compendium.

UNESCO should help generate support for funding of the planned World Heritage sustainable tourism conference.

UNESCO should pay attention to the needs and wishes of localities and encourage their collaboration in enhancing sites, building capacity, and mitigating possible dangers from tourism.

The session was opened for public comment. No members of the public expressed a desire to speak.

The session was then adjourned.

2:00 p.m. – Afternoon Breakout Session – Communication and Information

Commissioners Attending:

Mark Bench, World Press Freedom Committee

Jacquelyn Hawkins, Austin, Texas

Robert LaGamma, Council for a Community of Democracies

Robert Martin, Senior Advisor, Texas State Historical Records Advisory Board

Marguerite Sullivan, National Endowment for Democracy

Public Attendees:

Laura Ingalls, The Freedom House

George Mitchell, Federal Management Systems, Inc.

Staff:

Kelly Siekman, IO/UNESCO

The session was coordinated by Mr. Mark Bench, Executive Director, World Press Freedom Committee; Chairman, Committee on Communication and Information, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO.

Attendees introduced themselves and gave short bios.

Mrs. Siekman gave an overview of the operating procedures for the session. The topics will be reviewed and then the Commissioners will provide their input and recommendations, followed by the editing and compilation of the power point presentation. There was a short discussion about the documents provided at each station.

Mr. Mark Bench started the meeting by reiterating from last year the importance of

curbing insult laws, especially those enacted throughout the Middle East and South America. In Chile, for example, there were 350 government officials protected from insult. In these laws the truth may be no defense and the journalists often go to jail or be killed as a result of reporting the truth. Jyllands-Posten is the non profit publication that originally ran the Mohammed cartoon. The CEO of Jyllen Posten spoke at a recent conference on the importance of broadening the conversation on issues like code words for censorship.

The Committee on Communication and Information in the UN exists to tell the world what good the organization is doing through out the world. More marketing of the work that UNESCO does is necessary in order to raise awareness of the issues with regards to censorship and what the organization does to support training on both the journalism and business side of running publications throughout the world.

Report and Update on International Program for the Development of Communications

The Honorable Marguerite Sullivan, Director, Center for International Media Assistance, National Endowment for Democracy; member, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

Mrs. Marguerite Sullivan spoke about the International Program for the Development of Communications (IPDC), which has 39 members. IPDC approves grants applications that are awarded in the amounts of 15 to 60k for the training of journalists, community radio, legal training of journalists, student radio facilities, helping with equipment, aiding journalists in conflict areas.

There were 81 proposals at the meeting of the IPDC. Sixty-six (66) were approved totaling 1.8 Million USD. The program is entirely extra budgetary with the U.S. being a main contributor.

Russia was silent as was Venezuela for the most part. Tunisia agreed with the United States on most issues. The meeting was dominated by the Swiss, the U.S., the Afghani and the Namibian representatives. The Russian delegation will be contributing money (\$100k) for the first time and will be pushing hard on these issues in the CIS region. Mrs. Sullivan stressed the importance of these meetings and initiatives. Her first concern was that staff members need to discuss conditions beforehand as some staff members had no clue of press conditions in a particular country and others had a great deal of knowledge. Her second concern dealt with the application for the money by the countries which was often very inconsistent as to the level of detail each country provided. There must be assistance available to redo or reform the applications.

An additional concern was that there was no focus on the building of business management of the journalism. There must some level of training for the sustainability of the business not just for the payment of salaries. These are mature businesses that should not be asking for just salary stipends.

Mr. Robert LaGamma then interjected the topic of government intervention as it relates

to how this money would support press freedom. Mrs. Sullivan stated that there is often no stamp of approval needed for the monies to be requested or allocated, in countries where there is no press freedom there are often hurdles placed by governments as barriers to progress.

UNESCO is also charging approximately a 10% overhead fee out of the allocated monies that goes into the UNESCO general fund for operating costs. This is the first time that this fee has been charged. This is happening with all of the UNESCO projects going forward because there is a UNESCO role in its implementation because of its extra budgetary nature. There has been no outward discussion regarding these fees.

Mr. Robert LaGamma then asked the question of where the money goes once allocated and whether it goes to the local UNESCO office or elsewhere. Mrs. Kelly Siekman stated that the money goes straight to the grant applicant.

Mrs. Sullivan continued to say that there is often tax that is paid on equipment that is acquired in the various countries and regions. This problem will be addressed in the recommendations. She reiterated that a set of standards for the proposals is needed to bring consistency to the professionalism and level of detail of the proposals. Even just guiding the applicants through the process would be helpful.

Mr. Robert Martin asked about the monitoring of the projects once the money has been allocated and the check has been cleared. Mrs. Sullivan stated that some but not all of the projects are strictly monitored. An evaluation is often done periodically. The work that is done by the World Press Freedom Committee helps in the process of monitoring and the work that is done by IREX helps in the establishment of standards and monitoring the standards of press freedom around the world. There have been complaints regarding these standards, saying that they are too U.S. based and that there needs to be a more regional approach. These efforts are being used to bypass the UNESCO standards rather than have any real reform within the realm of freedom of the press.

Mr. Robert LaGamma asked about how would someone weigh the different uses of the money. For example, what differentiates the needs of a radio station versus a newspaper? There are guidelines that support press freedom, press that is not state sponsored. Mrs. Sullivan suggested that if there is a group among those that were present that wanted to work on recommendation to forward to the Chair (Switzerland), then this would be a worthwhile endeavor. Ms. Hawkins asked if this is part of the collective effort of refining and reforming effort that is currently underway and Mrs. Sullivan replied that this was a part of that effort.

Mrs. Sullivan listed the guidelines for the IPDC

1. Promotion of freedom of expression and media pluralism
2. Development of community media
3. Development of Human resources
4. Promotion of international partnerships

Mr. Mark Bench interjected regarding the structure of the four guidelines, stating that at the time that the guidelines were conceived there was a great deal of push back from countries that wanted to have control over the information that was being transmitted about them. He added that there was not the will within UNESCO at the time to push back. This is one of the reasons that the U.S. left UNESCO at that time. It was about at this time that the IPDC was formed as an alternative to UNESCO. One of the first projects was to send old printing presses to countries that could use them. In many countries the presses never reached their intended recipients because of local government interference or intervention.

Mrs. Sullivan suggested that the timing was right to provide the most influence on the IPDC initiatives because of the lack of input from the other members. Mr. Robert Martin interjected with a suggestion about centers of excellence or other sources and resources to help the compiling of proposal documents. He said that www.imls.gov is an excellent source for a guide or cookbook for government grant writing.

Mr. Robert Lagamma asked whether there are certain projects that stand out more than others. Mrs. Sullivan responded that the needs of the organizations vary from country to country and there is not one set of criteria that can be applied globally.

Mr. Robert Lagamma asked if the funds that are appropriated could be divided by sector or discipline, i.e., a portion for community radio and another for management. In the past the IPDC would approve projects and then the countries would cherry pick the projects once approved. This approach would leave some projects unfunded. Mr. Robert Lagamma suggested that there could instead be regional objectives in specific areas. Mrs. Sullivan suggested that this idea be included in any recommendations to IPDC.

Mr. Mark Bench suggested that this might be a problem regionally because of the cultural differences and the country to country personality conflicts that may arise from such an arrangement. Mr. Robert Lagamma suggested that regional objectives in specific areas may not be a problem in Africa even as Mr. Mark Bench gave anecdotal evidence in Latin America that this is a problem.

The general comment period for breakout session then ended.

The committee drafted the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION 1:

U.S. National Commission for UNESCO should create a sub-committee that will review and revise the International Program for the Development of Communication's Official Project Form and instructions. Particular attention should be paid to the management sustainability and evaluation of each project.

The National Commission's IPDC program recommendations will be shared with the U.S. expert to the Bureau of the IPDC, as the expert works with the IPDC Chair to endeavor to obtain adoption of favorable programs.

The U.S. should suggest after the revision of the Official Project Form, that UNESCO staff be appropriately trained in its usage and implementation.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

As the IPDC is a UNESCO program, it should not be assessed an overhead fee for the funding of programs.

If an overhead cost is unavoidable, the overhead percent assessed on the IPDC should be applied to that program.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

The U.S. should continue to monitor and maintain an appropriate role for UNESCO regarding the World Summit on the Information Society's main lines of action for which UNESCO is responsible.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

The U.S. should continue to encourage UNESCO's support for the development and implementation of the World Digital Library.

RECOMMENDATION 5:

The U.S. should encourage UNESCO to support without reservation the unimpeded use of the Internet as a means to ensure freedom of the press and the free flow of information.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

The U.S. should encourage UNESCO to push for full implementation of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on this the 60th Anniversary of its adoption.

RECOMMENDATION 7:

As UNESCO addresses the issue of safety of journalists, the U.S. should encourage UNESCO to take into account all factors that impede a journalist's ability to carry out his/her vital watchdog role that is the foundation for a free society.

The seminar opened for public comment. No members of the public expressed a desire to speak.

May 20, 2008

9 a.m. – Thematic Breakout Sessions

**THE UNESCO DRAFT PROGRAMME & BUDGET 2010-2011: REGION I
NATIONAL COMMISSION CONSULTATIONS and THE UNESCO
QUESTIONNAIRE**

Commissioners Attending:

Kathie Bailey-Mathae, National Academy of Sciences
Mark Bench, World Press Freedom Committee
John Francis, National Geographic Society
General Henry Hatch (ret.), Oakton, Virginia
Murray Horowitz, American Film Institute
Russel Jones, American Society of Civil Engineers
Robert R. LaGamma, Council for a Community of Democracies
Alan Moghissi, Institute for Regulatory Science
John Steadman, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
LaJuana S. Wilcher, Board Member, Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana

Public Attendees:

John Daly, Americans for UNESCO
Thora Jenkins, Federal Management Systems, Inc.
Patrice Lyons, Americans for UNESCO
Richard Nobbe, Americans for UNESCO
Verne Schneider, U.S. Geological Survey

Staff:

Susanna Connaughton, IO/UNESCO
Ross Corotis, IO/UNESCO
Kelly Siekman, IO/UNESCO
Emily Spencer, IO/UNESCO

This session was coordinated by General Hank Hatch, (ret), Chairman, Committee on Natural Sciences and Engineering, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO.

The meeting began with an explanation of what is the UNESCO questionnaire. The questionnaire is a vehicle to gather information and input on various aspects of the program. A periodic questionnaire goes out every two years in preparation for a consultation with the National Commissions of Region I (Europe, North America, Israel). The U.S. National Commission has been asked to provide input concerning certain elements of the questionnaire.

The following draft recommendations, which in many cases include changes marked in underlined and bold to distinguish them from the draft UNESCO lines of action and priorities, were developed by the session:

Recommendation 1

All program priorities should be more specific to provide clear links to targeting progress in programs and should include specific goals and metrics. There should be a clear link between the C/3 and a revised C/5.

Recommendation 2

Education Biennial Sectoral Priority 2: Fostering literacy and quality education for all at all levels and through both formal and non-formal life long learning with particular emphasis on Africa, gender quality, youth, LDCs and SIDs as well as the most vulnerable segments of society; including indigenous peoples, **civic education**, and education for sustainable development

Recommendation 3

Education MLA 3: Promote policy dialogue, research, **recommend best practices**

Education MLA 4: Provide capacity development and technical support to assist **public and private sector** efforts in achieving the Dakar goals.

Recommendation 4

Natural Science Biennial Sectoral Priority 1: Promoting technical capacity-building and **technology transfer** for the sound management of natural resources, **including safe and adequate resources of drinking water, sustainable economic development** and disaster preparedness and mitigation.

Recommendation 5

Natural Science MLA 1: Fostering policies, technical capacity-building research, networking; education and international cooperation in the fields of **water resources, including drinking water, and** ecological and earth sciences for enhancing societal responses.

Recommendation 6

Social and Human Science Biennial Sectoral Priority 1: Promoting **existing and universally agreed upon** principles, practices, and ethical norms relevant for scientific, technological, and social development.

Social and Human Science Biennial Sectoral Priority 2: **Provide assistance to Member**

States in strengthening the national and regional research systems in order to provide policy-oriented research on social and ethical issues.

Social and Human Science Biennial Sectoral Priority 3: **Promoting** [deleted contributing] a dialogue among civilizations and cultures and a culture of peace through philosophy, the social and human sciences, good governance, **the rule of law**, the promotion of human rights, and the fights against discrimination.

Recommendation 7

Social and Human Science MLA 1: Promoting **existing and internationally agreed upon principles of** ethics **relating to** science and technology with an emphasis on bioethics.

Social and Human Science MLA 2: **Promoting** [deleted enhancing] research-policy linkages in the field of social **science** [deleted development] and policies relating to physical education and sports.

Recommendation 8

Culture MLA 3: Enhancing the protection of cultural objects, [delete the fight] **protection** against illicit trafficking in them, **appropriate interchange of cultural property among peoples and states**, and the development of museums, **particularly building museum-related capacity** in developing countries.

Recommendation 9

Communication and Information MLA 1: Promoting [deleted an enabling environment] freedom of expression, **freedom of the press**, freedom of information, and **freedom of association, including the implementation of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**.

Communication and Information MLA 2: Fostering universal access to information and the development of **information-related infrastructure with due regard to intellectual property rights**.

Communication and Information MLA 4: Strengthening the role of communication and information in fostering mutual understanding, peace and reconciliation, **safety for the press**, particularly in conflict and post-conflict areas.

Recommendation 10

Intersectoral Platforms:

A. Science **and technology** education

C. **Fostering sustainable development** [delete education for]

H. **Fostering** [deleted contributing to] the dialogue among civilizations and cultures and a culture of peace.

FUTURE COMPOSITION OF THE U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION AND COMMISSION BEST PRACTICES

Commissioners Attending:

Ronald Bogle, American Architectural Foundation
Christie Brandau, State Librarian, State of Kansas
Noah Brown, Association of Community College Trustees
Nigel Cameron, Institute on Biotechnology and the Human Future
Jacquelyn K. Hawkins, Austin, Texas
Christopher Keane, American Geological Institute
James P. Kelly III, The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies
Richard Kurin, Falls Church, Virginia
Robert Martin, Senior Advisor, Texas State Historical Records Advisory Board
Kathleen Mellor, South Kingston, Rhode Island
Janice Smith, The Heritage Foundation
Marguerite Sullivan, National Endowment for Democracy
Martin Teasley, Eisenhower Foundation
Marianne Toombs, Learning Disabilities Association of America
Andre Varchaver, Americans for UNESCO
Robert Wilburn, Gettysburg National Foundation

Public Attendees:

Dolores Adams, Federal Management Systems, Inc.
Steven Groves, The Heritage Foundation
John Hoff, U.S. Mission to UNESCO
Ronald Jacobs, Ohio State University
Alice Kottmyer, U.S. Department of State
Louise Oliver, U.S. Mission to UNESCO
David Ostroff, U.S. Mission to UNESCO

Staff:

Alex Zemek, IO/UNESCO

This session was coordinated by Mr. Ron Bogle, President, American Architecture Foundation; member, U.S. National Commission on UNESCO.

Mr. Ronald Bogle gave a brief outline of what was to be presented and discussed during the session. He said that the objective of the session was to discuss future composition of the U.S. National Commission and the Commission's Best practices. Attendees to the session then briefly introduced themselves. Bogle then turned to Alex Zemek, Deputy Executive Director of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, for a

quantitative and historical presentation on the Commission.

Presentation on Composition

Alex Zemek, Deputy Executive Director, U.S. National Commission for UNESCO.

According to Mr. Alex Zemek, the National Commissions are a unique entity of the organization. Each member state has its own commission, each with its own design.

Summary of power point presentation by Mr. Alex Zemek:

Slide I - National Commission (History)

- 193 member states – 193 different Commissioners - Part of the 1946 establishment of UNESCO.(Article VII)
- July 1946 – 22 U.S. code 2870 Enabling Legislation -The Commission existed from 1946 -1984 when the U.S. left UNESCO.
- 1972 – Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) - This relates to transparency in government. Especially enabling citizens and public to have insight as what is being recommended to the government.
- Fall 2004, 2006 Charter. In 2004, the Commission has been reestablished. There was melding of the different Laws.

Slide II - Quotes related to Membership

- “Such Commissioners shall be appointed by the secretary of State”
- “No member shall serve more than two consecutive terms.”
- “Periodical review of the composition”

Slide III - Statistics for current membership with regard to UNESCO sector budget

- With respect to NGOs, there is a well balanced commission in the areas of Education, Natural Science, Social and Human Sciences, Culture and communication.

Slide IV - U.S. National Commission for UNESCO Represent NGO Primary Geographic Focus:

- Domestic Group 30%
- Internal Specific Group 10%
- Both specific and internal 20%

Slide V - Statistic Keywords

This is a list of frequently used words, based on the NGO profiles produced by each group.

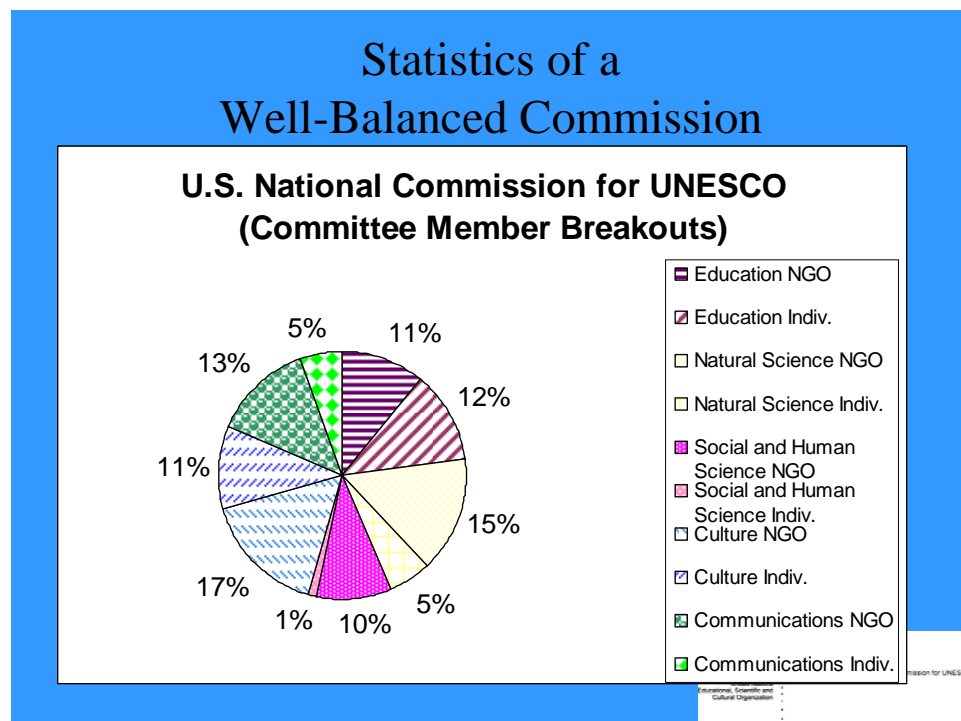
- Education
- Technology
- Culture Preservation
- Historical Preservation
- Democracy
- Ethics
- Science

According to Mr. Alex Zemek, "Education" tops the list because it is core to everything, and does not necessarily mean Education is overrepresented.

Slide VI - Statistics of a well balanced Commission

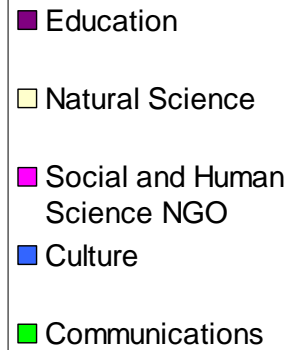
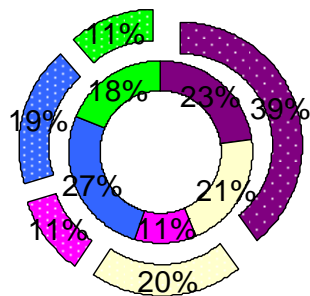
Composition:

Education NGOs - 11%
Education Individuals - 12%
Natural Science NGOs - 15%
Natural Science Individuals - 5%
Social & Human Sciences NGOs - 10%
Social & Human Sciences Individuals - 1%
Communication NGOs - 13%
Communication Individuals - 5%
Culture NGOs - 17%
Culture Individuals - 11%



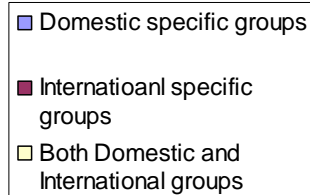
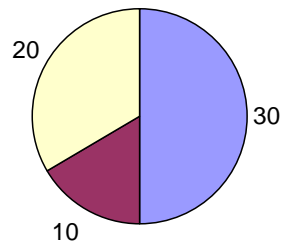
Statistics

**Sector by Sector
(UNESCO 2008-2009 Sector Budget Vs.
National Commission Sector
Membership)**

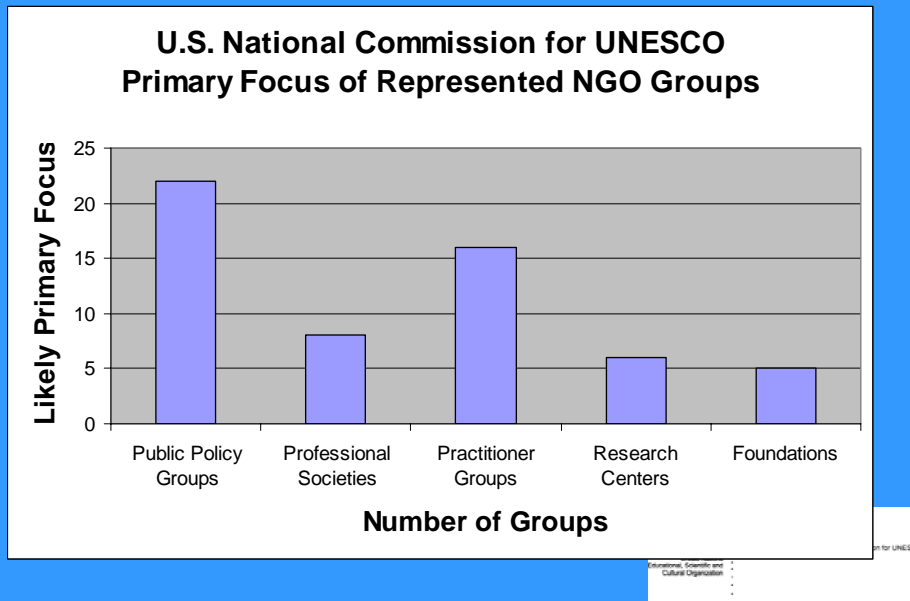


Statistics

**U.S. National Commission for UNESCO
Represented NGO Primary Geographic Focus**



Statistics



Question and Answer Session

Question: Ms. Christie Brandau - What makes up the Commission?

Response: Mr. Alex Zemek - The enabling legislature calls for the Commission to have up to 60 members from NGOs and 40 individuals broken out by 15 state representatives; 10 representatives of Federal government; 15 individual at large. This structure is the same as it was in 1946 as it is now.

Question: Mr. Andre Varchaver asked the representation from the Legal Advisory Office to describe what FACA is all about.

Response: Alice Kottmeyer, Federal Advisory Committee Act lawyer, U.S. Department of State said that Transparency of Statute is to make sure the public has access to advice the Federal government is giving in relation to requesting document from the advisory committee. Each year GAO is requesting reports, for example, on what is our commission size? What is our budget? What we spend on travel? It is basically a transparency.

Question: Mr. Andre Varchaver - What is the difference between the Commission as it exists now as it relates to the way it existed before?

Response: Mr. Alex Zemek - The fact is the enabling legislation of 1946 is that the secretary appoints the membership. No more the 100 members.

Question: How was this group of commissioners created?

Response: Mr. Alex Zemek - It is synonymous to any of our interview process as it relates to our policies. The Department of State, Bureau for Education and Cultural Affairs had suggested some names; The White House provided some names; and the Department of Education, and USAID also provided some names.

Question: Alex Zemek asks Ambassador Oliver- What do we see as emerging issues that are going to be discussed in UNESCO that we do not have expertise in?

Response: Ambassador Oliver - We should bring people of different fields to work together, subcommittees should also pull together to address the emerging issues. It is better to do it that way than to anticipate what an emerging issue might be. Appoint people who care about UNESCO. Those who are willing to participate and willing to engaged in the organization.

Question: Should the enabling legislature be changed?

Response: Ambassador Oliver, Mrs. Marguerite Sullivan, Mr. Alex Zemek

Ambassador Oliver thought that it is a bad idea.

Mrs. Marguerite Sullivan thought that 100 people were a lot, when she and Alice helped for the Commission but appeared to be manageable.

Mr. Alex Zemek felt that a group of 100 Commissioners is not too large. It is nice to have additional resources. We can tap in to any American and supplement the core membership because we are five commissions of 20 as opposed to one commission of 100.

Ambassador Oliver added that there is need for a large commission. It is an essential arm of the government's participation with UNESCO. Mrs. Marguerite Sullivan added that there are a lot of tough topics that have to be handled in terms of the Sciences, Culture, Education, and Communications. It a huge benefit to have all these groups.

The group then produced its draft observations and recommendations.

Future Composition of the National Commission and Best Practices

Observation 1

- The U.S. National Commission for UNESCO serves as a valuable resource to the USG and the Permanent Delegation in particular.

Observation 2

- The composition, dedication, and capabilities represented in the inaugural U.S. National Commission have been essential in our successful reengagement with UNESCO. The current Commissioners will continue to be a resource, offering continuity during transition.

Observation 3

- In order to always provide the greatest benefit to the U.S. government, Commission members are invited to offer recommendations to the Department of State on the National Commission's nature, structure, and operation.

Observation 4

- The commission can serve as a resource through:
 - Increasing engagement on formation of delegations
 - Serving as a large recruiting agency or network for UNESCO vacancies
 - Sharing informational resources

Recommendation 1

- Maintain an integrated, multi-disciplined, non-siloed, volunteer membership of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO that supports cross-discipline interaction.

Recommendation 2

- The composition of the Commission should continue to reflect the issues and challenges UNESCO is taking on as well as the priorities of the U.S. government.

Recommendation 3

- Reappointments of members should take into consideration involvement, contribution, and active working support to the Commission.

Recommendation 4

- Using subcommittees is an effective mechanism to focus on specific topics, and to blend interaction between committees and disciplines
- Non-members advisors, who can be appointed by the Executive Director of the National Commission, should be continued to be used as resource for Subcommittees.

Recommendation 5

- Always seek Commissioners who care about the U.S.'s role in UNESCO and its participation.
- The composition of the U.S. National Commission should not be strictly tied to any specific mathematical formula, within legal constraints.

Recommendation 6

- Consider establishing an orientation for new members to help ensure continue and productive membership.

Recommendation 7

- Topics to consider for future membership
 - Youth groups/Students representatives
 - Business management
 - Program evaluation
 - International relief (as related to UNESCO)
 - Grassroots, local expertise
 - Education research
 - Environmental protection (as related to U.S. National Committee for the IHP)

Recommendation 8

- The Commission benefits from having State and Local membership on the Commission.
- While the Commission is not required to be at its capacity of 100 members, the Department of State has had difficulty filling positions designated for State and Local individuals.
- Commission members could assist with recommendations of State and Local individuals.

Recommendation 9

- As a best management practice, the Commission members should receive feedback on the status of previous recommendations prior to the Annual Meeting.

10:45 a.m. – Plenary Session in Salon B/G

Presentation on U.S.-funded UNESCO Museums Project

Ms. Susanna Connaughton thanked all for their efficient and hard work during the recent sessions and said that the Commission appreciated the work of everyone. Mr.

Alexander Zemek was also commended for consistent support to the mission. After a few house keeping items the session proceeded to view the presentation on U.S. funded UNESCO Museums Project.

The presenters:

Mr. Laurent Levi-Strauss, Chief of Section, Section of Museums and Cultural Objects, Culture Sector, UNESCO presented the overall view of the Museums Projects.

Mr. Jose Mario Maza, Director of the Museum of Modern Art in Guatemala.

Mr. Samuel Sidibe, Director of the National Museum in Mali.

Mr. Laurent Levi- Strauss thanked Mrs. Susanna Connaughton and proceeded to present an overview of the U.S. funded UNESCO Museums Project since 2004.

Summary of power point presentation

UNESCO Programme for the Preservation of Endangered Movable Cultural Properties and Museum Development

1945 - The UNESCO constitution assured the conservation and protection of the Works of Art - Article 1.2c

1947 – A museum section was established within the culture sector of UNESCO

1948 – UNESCO begins publishing Museum International

1960 – The international campaign was launched to save the Nubian Monuments

2003 – October 1, U.S. returned as Member state to UNESCO, it was decided that a portion of the U.S. contribution would be set aside for the preservation of cultural objects and the development of museums.

2004 – Launching of the programme for the Preservation of Endangered Movable Cultural Properties and Museum Development

2007 – The creation of UNESCO section of Museums and Cultural Objects

Two main projects are financed by the U.S. contribution to the UNESCO program, the pilot project and the museum partnership project. Eleven of these projects have been launched in 2004 and a further two were launched in 2007. These projects were managed by UNESCO field offices under HQ supervision. A scientific advisor, Ms. Marta De la Torre was hired to follow the phased implementation and provide advice and recommendation.

There are ten museum partnership projects, where the museums of the north are partnered with the museums of the south. There is a three year project with the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) and the International Council of Museums (ICOM) where the partnership has led to the publications of support materials one of which is called

“Running a Museum.” It provides basic information for developing countries and has been translated into six languages.

The museum pilot project program has been launched in the following developing, transition and post conflict countries:

Africa:	Kenya, Ghana, Mali/Niger
Asia:	Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia
Arab States:	Yemen, Sudan
Latin America:	Guatemala, Honduras
Europe:	Georgia

The Mali/Niger project is concerned not only with the national museum in Bamako but also with the cultural heritage of the world heritage site of the Bandagara Cliff, the Dogon heritage. Several activities have been carried out and the community based Museum in Soroli has been built. The Ghana project focused on safeguarding endangered Kente textile, providing training for better conservation and the importance of the textile.

The museum project in Asia consists of five projects: 1) The national museum in Kabul (which was heavily looted and destroyed some years ago during the Taliban regime), has now been repaired and reopened for some exhibition. 2) In Pakistan there is the need to safe guard the Gandhara collection – the Buddhist Art - in three museums in Peshawar; due to security reasons one training has been organized in the documentation of the collections, the workshop on storage and preventative conservation has not been implemented. 3) Significant improvements have been achieved in the documentation, digitization and storage conditions, training and capacity building as regards the projects in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. 4) Focusing on the Buddhist Art Museum in Mongolia there are also important activities extended to small museums in the countryside.

There were two successful projects in the Arab states, Sudan and Yemen, the projects revived the National Museum in Khartoum as well as the archeological site in Jebel Karbal (this site was heavily looted, the pillar is now safe and stored at the National Museum).

The project in Honduras, which was later discussed in further detail by Mr. Jose Maria Maza, has enabled the two museums, the Comayagua Museum of Anthropology and the San Pedro Sula History Museum to strengthen their relationship with local communities, strategic alliances were developed between schools, business and tour operators. The project was also assisted in the improvement of display areas, storage areas and administrative offices.

The ten museums partnership concern countries in Africa, Latin America, the Pacific, and the Caribbean. Four of the projects have been implemented with the partnership of an American Museum and institution. The following partnership/pairings were noted:

Cooperation between Indiana University and National Museum of Liberia led to the rebuilding of the museum in post conflict Liberia; the International Storytelling Center an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institute and select Museums of Egypt; the Grenada National Museum with Texas Tech University and the Pan Handle Plains Historical Museum of West Texas A&M University; the Center for Burma Studies with the Northern Illinois University has been paired with the Museums in Myanmar to preserve their endangered cultural heritage.

Following these projects four main needs have been identified in relation to the running of a museum, they are as follows:

- Inventory and documentation
- Storage reorganization
- Preventative conservation
- Risk preparedness

Development of training publications based on the needs identified in museums

The current publications are as follows:

- *Running a Museum* – focuses on all aspect of museum management and collection care
- *Heritage Protection Handbook* – deals with the basic necessity of the care of objects

The priorities for the future involve the following:

- new projects to combine conservation of cultural objects and fight against illicit trafficking
- focus action on fewer museums with bigger budgets and fewer implementation periods for increased sustainability
- continue capacity-building and development of training materials and pedagogical tools
- target museums and archeological sites in Latin & Central America, West Africa, Central Asia and Arab states.

Summary of power point presentations

Mr. Jose Mario Maza, Director of the Museum of Modern Art in Guatemala.

UNESCO Museum Project -Guatemala

This project is without a doubt one of the most important projects in my country. Guatemala received a significant benefit from the US Project. Eleven thousand two

hundred pieces were registered and documented; the museums involved along with the number of pieces registered. The National Museum of History, the National Museum of Modern Art, the Colonial Art Museum, Ancient Book Museum, the Arms Museum, the Regional Museum and the CASA MIMA - the only private museum, were involved in the project.

The mission included activities like training, inventory, publications, educational programs, conferences and workshops all trying to ensure the conservation and protection of the cultural heritage in Guatemala. All the museums have a basic and domestic inventory, with the training of personnel, given the professional capacity and registration department of the ministry of culture and the equipment to develop all the projects.

Seven Museums are participating in the project, six national and one private. Some of the collections were published as is the case of the National Museum of Archeology and Ethnology and some collections related with jade, chachales and guipilies. There are twelve museum publications are by now the full version of Guatemala's red list, the publications show the two most important objects or pieces of each relations, items of the cultures, the text in each publication were written for outside specialist; the publications include a small part of the national Museum of Archeology and Ethnology and at the same time drafted guide to identify the cultural objects were printed in two sizes for the museum and the staff. The Compendium of Laws to protect the Cultural Heritage and the Handbook on Agents of Deterioration in Museums were two special publications; also, posters and brochures dealing with the prevention and information on illicit trafficking were printed and distributed on a national level, the materials included workshops with different sectors of the society.

A pilot project that included educational material was developed in some museums, to establish progress of students and panelists, information was provided to not only the museum staff but to different sectors of the society including the fire department and police. A Website was improved to include the museums in the project and all the information of the activities and workshops of the museums is available on the internet.

As a result of this project there are 1844 pieces have been registered, there are now trained personnel among other achievements a thematic order of the collection.

Mr. Samuel Sidibe, Director of the National Museum in Mali.

Conservation and Sustainable Management of Dogon Cultural Heritage

The project was funded by the U.S. and UNESCO and implemented in Bandiagara by the mission Culterelle of Bandiagara and in Bamako by the National Museum of Mali. The main objective and strategy of the project was to reinforce by concrete measures a sustainable conservation and valorization of Dogon endangered movable heritage by the implementation of preventative action to fight theft and illicit trafficking of objects. The preventative actions included inventory and documentation of cultural heritage on

the site and in the National Museum, education and public awareness, creation of local museums and improvement of existing museums, and the creation of a website for Dogon cultural heritage.

As a result of these projects, 2091 objects have been inventoried, 1713 are under construction of the local museum of Soroly and 378 are kept in sanctuaries. There is also the construction of the local museum in Soroly, raising the awareness of the public through meeting, theater, performances and out reach programs for schools, support of local development by the encouraging craftsmen to create associations in order to improve their production. The project also supported the National Museum of Niger by training four people to computerize their inventories.

The project allowed for the restoration of three local museums; they included the local museum of Ende, the local museum of Soroly and the local museum of Koundou. The project is useful and is done with local input and local communities; to succeed it must involve local communities.

Question and Answer Session

Comment: Mr. Frank Hodsoll - I would like to compliment UNESCO, I just would like to compliment Laurent and his colleagues for moving forward with this program, there has been a lot of accomplishments over the years since it has started and would like to congratulate our colleagues from Guatemala, Mali and Afghanistan (some of whose treasures we will be seeing shortly a wonderful exhibit at the National Gallery) to simply under score how happy we are in the commission in the United States that you all are doing this and how much more work needs to be done. I would like to thank you very much.

Question: Mr. Richard Kurin - I was wondering about the capacity building programs for museum professionals. In these various examples as we look around the world we think there are thousands and thousands of museums and they are ever growing. I think Samuel's point about his work with local communities is very important, but what about the training of people to fill these many roles in museums around the world; what kind of programs does UNESCO have going and what kind of programs do you see on the forefront for literally the training with thousands and thousands of people who will be needed in these museums?

Response: Mr. Laurent Levi Strauss - Thank you Richard, as you see we are not in the position to train enough people. These are pilot projects and we hope that the example we set to other countries and agencies to support the museum and to provide also training will allow us to make these booklets for training which are widely spread. Through these booklets, I hope that we can reach much more people than we have been able to do with the pilot projects in the museum partnerships. Concerning the fields of activities the main field for the time being has been management, with preventive conservation, storage and organization and documentation, but we ought to extend the number of booklets and we are working with colleagues at ICOM and Institut

National du Patrimoine to see what we would feel more useful to dispatch more booklets and to help the people. Additionally, we hope to arrive at a conclusion at least to know all the basic principals of conservation and managing a museum.

Question: Dr. Jonathan Katz - I was particularly impressed by the society community connection in Mali and this is something that typically museum professionals are not prepared to do. I wonder if you had a curriculum at your museum that you use or how do you get that dimension of the community connection from your personnel?

Response: Mr. Samuel Sidibe - Let's say we do not have a curriculum, working with communities such progress seems really natural. I think that your question is important also the question of which curriculum. I think that national museums in Africa have to play a key role of creating a reserve of local museums and play a role of training at those museums. I think from that point of view a program of training of trainers will be surpassingly important.

The session was then adjourned for lunch.

1:00 p.m. – Concluding Plenary in Salon B/G

Susanna Connaughton introduced the members of the panel who would present on the recommendation from their respective committees. She outlined how the Concluding Plenary would proceed: representatives from each of the five committees would introduce the committee's recommendations, then the commissioners would discuss proposals and make changes as necessary. After this the floor would open for public comment and finally the commissioners would have another chance to finalize the recommendations and hopefully come to a consensus.

Members of the Panel included: Mrs. Peggy Blumenthal, General Hank Hatch (ret), Mr. James Kelly III, and Mr. Frank Hodsoll, Mark Bench, and Ron Bogle.

Mrs. Peggy Blumenthal – Education Committee

Mrs. Blumenthal gave an overview of the draft recommendations, which each attendee had received during the lunch break.

Regarding Recommendation 1, it looks at issues of quality for all, not just numerical success but quality Education For All.

Recommendation 2 speaks for itself. There are a lot of successful U.S. models like head start and our working community colleges.

Recommendation 3 not only looked at metrics, but it also considered how you would make a decision based on more than just numbers. There are others way of measuring literacy and what it means to be literate.

Recommendation 4 focused on Public/ Private partnerships - the U.S. has had a lot of success in this area both in terms of involving NGOs in education literacy efforts, corporate involvement in higher education and in primary and secondary education since many companies were looking to develop an adequate workforce. There is a separate recommendation added and actually merged into one – talking about UNESCO needing assistance in the area where UNESCO staff may not be knowledgeable about these Public /Private partnership. It was suggested USAID has many staff members working in this area and perhaps their staff can be seconded to Paris for that purpose.

Recommendation 5 propounded the idea of linking workforce preparation with education relating to out-of- school youth not just to make them literate but employable. Many major corporations are getting involved in the work force model.

Recommendation 6 emerged from the consensus that it would be a good idea to encourage the staff at the field offices to know a little bit more in the area of teacher training.

In regards to Recommendation 7, the NGOs should be involved in the helping the countries in transition

Recommendation 8 puts forth the idea that for the upcoming 2009 world conference on Higher Education, a sub group should work together to help share some ideas to bring to the world conference such themes as the college model, growth, innovation and how do you teach entrepreneurship, work life and learning insurance and the issue of endangered scholars around the world.

Recommendation 9 ensures quality assurance at the higher education and at the national level.

Question and Answer Session

Question: Mr. Nigel Cameron – Just wonder given the significance of protecting scholars might we add a little text or send out a second recommendation which is specifically focused on the freedom of thought which is part of the education process rather than listing it separately.

Response: Mr. Peggy Blumenthal - Thank you, one, we should protect ideas and then two protecting lives, they are closely related.

The Commission tentatively agreed with the draft Education Committee Recommendations.

General Hank Hatch (ret) – Natural Science and Engineering Committee

Thank you, this sector is blessed in having good focused sub programs, two are the International Hydrological Program and the Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission. For each program, there is a U.S. National Committee that is made up of government and non government experts in those fields. There is also a little footnote that says the people involved in those activities maintained a high level of contact and engagement with UNESCO throughout the period of time when U.S. was not a member, and have maintained a level of momentum and continuity over the years.

General Hatch gave an overview of the draft recommendations:

Regarding Recommendation 1, this slide advises on the various elements of the principles.

Recommendation 2 encourages the U.S. to seek financial support for the IHP.

In Recommendation 3, the Committee urges the Commission to benefit from the two major U.S. events held later this year.

No further comment given for Recommendation 4.

Recommendation 5 encourages the IOC to focus on capacity building efforts on coastal and observation systems, developing the indigenous capability to participate in those otherwise extremely expensive programs.

No further comment given for Recommendation 6.

Recommendation 7 resulted from a briefing that was received on the IOC's 50th anniversary celebration. It was focused on a big internal celebration rather than a greater public outreach

Recommendation 8 seeks to increase American participation, membership and employment on the secretariat some good American candidates should be put forward.

Recommendations 9 and 10 deal with capacity-building, the first U.S. resolution since rejoining UNESCO, UNESCO has observed the idea did not do too much with it, but like to register the continue dismay of the general lack of progress in the areas of water engineering and technology, the area of science education, this proposal included the development of a coordinating there is no coordination, that should be done.

Specifically, Recommendation 10 recognizes a first step has been taken to hire a senior staff person. It is the intent to work closely with that person and the rest of the secretariat.

In Recommendation 11, an independent review of the major programs II and III was urged. It is understood the UNESCO has an internal review on the way to implementing

any of the recommendations of the task force; a recommendation that the internal group should engage the original task force in that process and also provide open to the public and to the member states some reports on the progress towards the implementation of those five recommendations.

The Commission tentatively supported the draft recommendation of the Science and Engineering Committee.

Mr. James Kelly III – Social and Human Sciences Committee

No further comment for Recommendations 1, 2, and 3.

Regarding Recommendation 4, the background on this recommendation is an outgrowth of the program called the UNESCO International Coalition of Cities against Racism Discrimination and Xenophobia. It is a program whereby UNESCO Social and Human Sciences committee negotiates a ten point commitment plan with local municipalities for the promotion of policies which will prevent racism, discrimination and xenophobia. The UNESCO Social and Human Sciences sector is partnering with other world organizations to advance the Global Charter-Agenda for human rights in the city. The basic concern of the committee was that UNESCO pursues this program through their member states and national commissions rather than brokering individual agreements with local municipalities in contravention of the member states spirit and organization structure of UNESCO.

The Commission tentatively supported the draft recommendation of the Social and Human Sciences Committee.

Mr. Frank Hodsoll – The Culture Committee

I would like to start by commending Ms. Laura Gritz who is new to the staff and has been of enormous help. I would like to thank everyone else for their help, also thanks to Ambassador Oliver. There were nine clusters of recommendations some of which are similar in nature.

Hodsoll then gave an overview and provided comments on the draft recommendations:

Recommendation 1 calls for the USG to support and engage the Commission in searching for a strong management candidate for the new Deputy Director of the World Heritage Center.

Recommendation 2 calls for the U.S. Government to do everything possible to maintain the credibility of the World Heritage program to ensure that is based more on preservation and a lot less on politics.

Recommendation 3 concerns the National Heritage Convention.

Comment: Ambassador Oliver – A clarification on the “Intangible”; we do not have a position on the Convention; we do not yet know how it will be implemented. Like every convention that sets up an intergovernmental committee, the first thing that happens is that the countries ratify the convention and there is a whole mass of countries that ratify it earlier on. Countries that do not have a parliamentary procedure or other procedures on this issue ratify it immediately so that they can participate in elections for the intergovernmental committee. This is what happened with the Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention, once that is missed. You cannot serve on the intergovernmental committee because those committee slots have been elected. There is now an intergovernmental committee but we cannot be on that committee, we can only observe their meetings. This intergovernmental committee has met three times; it has been very controversial and contentious. They do not yet know and have not yet had an agreement on how this convention is going to be implemented. Thus we do not know what the rules of the game are for this convention. It is thus a little hard for us to have a position until we know what it is to be done and how it will be done. The first world assembly of this convention will take place in late June. At that point, after this first world assembly they will either adapt, support, change, revise or whatever, the recommendations of their own intergovernmental committee. After that time we will have a much better idea as to what that convention is going to do and how it is going to do it. Then we can take seriously how we feel about it and how it fits with U.S. agenda. I would just like to make it very clear to have a position on the convention at this point is premature, because we do not know the rules of the game. We do need to continue attend these meetings as observers following it so when the rules are finally decided we can have a thorough understanding as to how this convention is going to be run.

Comment: Dr. Jonathan Katz - This was a convention in part that was written by people at the NEA and other cultural agencies of the U.S. e.g. the Smithsonian. Had we played a role and adapted it at the beginning stages, we would have been sitting in that decision making body at the very beginning. There are currently ninety-four countries that have adopted this convention, and will become the standard for dealing with intangible cultural heritage, living cultural conditions of people. It is a very democratic treaty. If the U.S. has a hand in it, this can be interpreted and implemented in a very positive way to encourage true cultural diversity at the communal level. The fear is that the dialogue is so far along, it appears that the U.S. will be cut out of that dialogue and the U.S. does have an important contribution to make to this process.

Following the comment Recommendation 3 was changed to read:

The USG should consider its position on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention

Regarding Recommendations 4, 5, and 6, there were a few recommendations that pertain to the prevention of illicit trade and looting of cultural property. All states do their best to prevent illicit trade and all states encourage higher ethics in their cultural institutions and it is this balance that is critical to the implementation of the convention.

There were a few comments on Recommendation 7. The UN Foundation was

commended for the major effort they have forwarded in this area of sustainable tourism through cultural science and other activities. They have funded for a period of years, a staff member at the Center for Studies in the natural and cultural area.

Comment: Bob Wagner – I understood from the discussion, the purpose was to try to find a way of facilitating long term loans to U.S. and European museums from countries that are very reluctant to part with their antiquities. I suggest that the U.S. should encourage UNESCO to built partnerships that will result in long term bonds of antiquities ten years or more in exchange for joint participation in archeological projects, training and infrastructure support, there will be a quid-pro-quo with these long term loans.

Regarding Recommendation 8, seek support for the Preserve America Summit recommendations.

Recommendation 9 calls for strengthening of partnership in terms of capacity building and partnerships with museums.

The Commissioners tentatively supported the Culture Committee's Recommendations.

Mr. Mark Bench – Communications and Information Committee

Mark Bench provided an overview and comments on the Committee's draft recommendations:

Regarding Recommendation 1, the IPDC program received 81 projects from all over the world the analysis was difficult for members of the bureau because they were all over the place - some with enormous detail and some just barely qualified. Thus a sub-committee was developed to analyze and prepare an official project form with instructions and pay attention to the management sustainability and evaluation of each project which seemed lacking. The recommendations were then taken and shared with the experts who would then try to get the ideas adopted. It was also learnt that all extra budgetary projects are assessed an extra 10% overhead, this should be applied to the program from which it was leveled.

Comment: Ambassador Oliver - We believe in overhead cost for most extra budgetary projects. When a country decides to run a project through UNESCO using extra budgetary funds, clearly it will take staff time if an overhead cost is not charged then the rest of the countries are subsidizing extra budgetary projects for the countries. The issue with the IPDC is more complicated and the idea was rejected that it is an extra budgetary program. It is a regular program of UNESCO; it is not a program that the U.S. decided to do. This regular UNESCO program is being funded by extra budgetary funds but that does not make it an extra budgetary program.

There were no further comments on Recommendations 2, 3, 4, and 5, which dealt with IPDC, WSIS, the World Digital Library and freedom of expression.

Recommendation 6 suggests that we should push UNESCO for the full implementation of Article 19. In essence Article 19 of the 1948 version of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights says “Everyone has the freedom to hold and impart ideas freedom of expression and opinion including across all borders.” There have been later international conventions and one included in its 1968 Article 19, the identical wording except that it competes with national policies. The USG did not agree with that vision; however, the USG did accept it with reservations.

There were no further comments on Recommendation 7.

The Commission tentatively supported the Communication and Information’s Committee’s Recommendations.

General Hank Hatch – 2010-2011: Region 1 NatCom Consultations

General Hatch gave an overview and commented on the draft recommendations:

The recommendations added, deleted, or changed the UNESCO wordings for the 2010-2011 draft program and budget.

The Commission tentatively approved the recommendations, which are reflected in the approved slides in the final recommendations section.

Mr. Ronald Bogle – Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Ronald Bogle gave an overview and provided comments on the group’s draft recommendations. The Commission desired to add another recommendation relating to annual feedback on the status of previous year’s recommendation. The four observations and nine recommendations reiterated the importance of the Commission and its vibrant composition.

The Commission tentatively accepted the group’s recommendations.

Public Comments and Responses

Susanna Connaughton then opened the meeting for public comment.

Mr. Ray Wanner – Public Delegate – on behalf of UN Foundation

Mr. Ray Wanner had a suggestion for an additional recommendation to the Science Committee. The U.S. is not yet fully engaged with one of UNESCO’s most important scientific programs – the Man and the Biosphere. There are currently interagency discussions on re-engaging fully. My Foundation would be very useful if the National

Commission would encourage the Interagency Committee to pursue these deliberations on a very active basis. Suggest the following language “That the USG pursue actively, consideration of full engagement of the Man and the Biosphere program.”

Comment: Mrs. Kelly Siekman stated that the office began an interagency conversation regarding the possibility of re-engaging fully with the Man and the Biosphere program at UNESCO and that the conversations and consultations have moved into a positive direction. This recommendation would be helpful and not harmful. She reminded the group that it is a slow process which involves Congress and many parties.

Comment: General Hank Hatch (ret) stated that he has raised the question a number of times in the past and urged that it be a recommendation of this Commission.

Comment: Mr. Richard Kurin stated that there are some U.S. agencies and organizations that have never stopped working internationally with their colleagues on the Man and the Biosphere project even the Smithsonian.

Following no further public comments, Connaughton asked the Commission if they wanted to make any amendments based on the comments they heard. The Commission decided to incorporate the proposed Man and the Biosphere recommendation. The Commission had no further comments regarding amending any of the other previously stated tentative recommendations. The Commission agreed to consider its draft recommendations as final recommendations to the government.

The recommendations were then moved for final adoption by Mr. Alan Moghissi and seconded by Mrs. Marguerite Sullivan, and supported unanimously.

Susanna Connaughton then adjourned the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO 2008 Annual Meeting at 2:30 p.m.

IV. List of Attendees

The following individuals attended all or part of the 2008 U.S. National Commission for UNESCO Annual Meeting/Conference:

Commissioners Attending:

Kathie Bailey-Mathae, National Academy of Sciences
Ford Bell, American Association of Museums
Mark Bench, World Press Freedom Committee
Peggy Blumenthal, Institute of International Education
Ronald Bogle, American Architectural Foundation
Noah Brown, Association of Community College Trustees
Bonnie Burnham, World Monuments Fund

Nigel Cameron, Institute on Biotechnology and the Human Future
Bruce Cole, National Endowment for the Humanities
John DeGioia, Washington, DC
John Francis, National Geographic Society
Amy Flatten, American Physical Society
Sandra Gibson, Association of Performing Arts Presenters
Madeleine F. Green, American Council on Education
General Henry Hatch (ret.), Oakton, Virginia
Jacquelyn K. Hawkins, Austin, Texas
Frank Hodsoll, Falls Church, Virginia
Murray Horowitz, American Film Institute
William J. Hybl, International Foundation for Election Systems
Russel Jones, American Society of Civil Engineers
Jonathan Katz, National Assembly of State Art Agencies
Christopher M. Keane, American Geological Institute
James P. Kelly III, The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies
Richard Kurin, Falls Church, Virginia
Robert R. LaGamma, Council for a Community of Democracies
Adair Margo, Chairman, President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities
Robert S. Martin, Senior Advisor, Texas State Historical Records Advisory Board
Kathy Mellor, North Kingstown, Rhode Island
Alan Moghissi, Institute for Regulatory Science
Fary Moini, Rotary International
Anne-Imelda Radice, Director, Institute of Museum and Library Services
Janice Smith, The Heritage Foundation
Marguerite Sullivan, National Endowment for Democracy
Martin Teasley, Eisenhower Foundation
Marianne Toombs, Learning Disabilities Association of America
Andre Varchaver, Americans for UNESCO
Timothy P. Whalen, Getty Conservation Institute
Robert Wilburn, Gettysburg Foundation
LaJuana S. Wilcher, Board Member, Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana
Jennifer Windsor, Freedom House
Pauline Yu, American Council of Learned Societies

Presenters and Speakers:

Gustavo Araoz, Vice President, U.S. ICOMOS
Gary Bittner, Office of Education, USAID
Richard Calnan, U.S. Geological Survey
Joseph Carney, Office of Education, USAID
Kate Dodson, Deputy Director, Sustainable Development, UN Foundation
James Fitzpatrick, Arnold & Porter
John Fowler, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
John Hatch, Office of Education, USAID
Matthew Larsen, U.S. Geological Survey
Laurent Levi-Strauss, UNESCO

Phyllis Magrab, Georgetown University
Philippe de Montebello, Metropolitan Museum of Art
Stephen Morris, National Park Service
Louise Oliver, Ambassador, U.S. Mission to UNESCO
Martin Sullivan, Director, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery
Elizabeth Tirpak, U.S. Department of State/ IOC Committee
Raymond Wanner, UN Foundation

Public Attendees:

Dolores Adams, Federal Management Systems
Caleb Brutus, Federal Management Systems, Inc.
Peggy Bulger, Library of Congress
Marianne Craven, U.S. Department of State
Tim Curtis, UNESCO
John Daly, Americans for UNESCO
Christie Darling, Georgetown University
Anita Difanis, Association of Art Museum Direction
Andrew Finch, Association of Art Museum Direction
Steven Groves, The Heritage Foundation
Laura Ingalls, The Freedom House
Ronald Jacobs, Ohio State University
Thora Jenkins, Federal Management Systems
Christine Kalke, National Endowment for the Humanities
Alice Kottmyer, U.S. Department of State
François Langlois, UNESCO Almaty Office
Christian Manhart, UNESCO
Frank Method, Americans for UNESCO
George Mitchell, Federal Management Systems, Inc
Richard Nobbe, American for UNESCO
David Ostroff, U.S. Mission to UNESCO
Arthur Paterson, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Odette Ponte, USDA, Executive Leadership Program
Jessica Raper, Georgetown University
Stephanie Robson, U.S. Department of Education
Verne Schneider, U.S. Geological Survey
Samuel Sidibe, National Museum of Mali
Crystal Simpson, Federal Management Systems
Marta de la Torre, UNESCO Consultant
Nancy Weiss, Institute of Museum and Library Services
Shira Yoffe, U.S. Department of State/ OES

Staff:

Susanna Connaughton, IO/UNESCO
Ross Corotis, IO/UNESCO
Leslie Esbrook, IO/UNESCO
Laura Gritz, IO/UNESCO

John Hoff, U.S. Mission to UNESCO
Kelly Siekman, IO/UNESCO
Emily Spencer, IO/UNESCO
Alex Zemek, IO/UNESCO

ATTACHMENT I

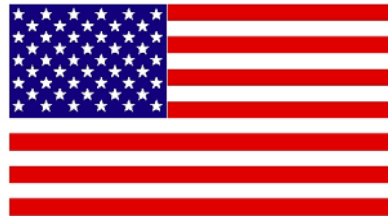
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS POWERPOINT

U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

2008 Annual Meeting Recommendations



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



United States
National Commission for UNESCO

Education Committee

Recommendation 1

- UNESCO should increase its initiatives related to improving the overall quality of education, recognizing the attention placed on meeting the EFA goals as measured by the EFA Global Monitoring Report.

Education Committee

Recommendation 2

- Share U.S. models/expertise in early childhood education, adult literacy and engage Commissioners to identify and promote models that could be applicable to other countries as they pursue the EFA goals.

Education Committee

Recommendation 3

- To effectively meet EFA goals, the U.S. should encourage UNESCO to improve education data collection capacity in countries to inform, drive and improve in-country decision making with regard to education.

Education Committee

Recommendation 4

- Promote the importance of developing and identifying opportunities for public/private partnerships and other ways to leverage non-governmental funding for education.
- Encourage UNESCO to consider building staff capacity in this area, through innovative mechanisms not necessarily tied to the regular assessed budget.

Education Committee

Recommendation 5

- UNESCO should consult with local business communities to identify and strengthen the link between education and job creation/economic development, focusing specifically on out-of-school youth, and career and technical education within the framework of EFA.

Education Committee

Recommendation 6

- Encourage UNESCO to strengthen UNESCO's field offices in education, specifically focusing on teacher training.

Education Committee

Recommendation 7

- Identify in-country NGOs that could help countries in transition rebuild education systems—encourage UNESCO and its regional/country offices to be active with this initiative.

Education Committee

Recommendation 8

- Focus on the need to increase the level of transparency in member countries applied to funding streams for rebuilding education systems.

Education Committee

Recommendation 9

- U.S. should develop a mechanism for input into the planning of the World Conference on Higher Education, that includes the higher education community, the NATCOMM, and relevant partners to identify priority themes which may include:
 - the community college model
 - programs related to innovation, growth, and entrepreneurship
 - lifelong learning
 - quality assurance
 - protecting scholars

Education Committee

Recommendation 10

- Continue its role in information sharing and national and regional capacity building in higher education quality assurance, including the promotion of diverse models and actors, including NGOs.

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 1

International Hydrological Program

- Accept U.S. National Committee for the IHP proposed implementation plan for engaging with the UNESCO IHP.

Recommendation 1 continued:

Elements of Proposed Implementation Plan

- Focus on practical science and technology transfer which can be readily used to improve Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in developing nations and contribute to meeting USG objectives, Paul Simon Water for Poor Act, MGD's, etc.
- Lead/support IHP-VII program themes (2008-2013)
- Lead/support IHP data/monitoring programs
- Partner with existing IHP programs that support principal themes
- Seek collaboration for capacity-building and training programs through existing UNESCO Centers with particular emphasis on Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 2

International Hydrological Program

- Encourage the U.S. National Committee for IHP to seek support to enable activities particularly with respect to capacity building, technology transfer, and committee operations

Recommendation 2 continued: Rationale

- USG influence within sphere of UNESCO-IHP activities would be significantly enhanced if a relatively modest level of funding is provided in support of the USG strategy and action plan for US engagement with IHP
- The rationale for such an investment is that without US funding the ability for the USG to shape the direction of and to further those IHP-VII objectives which are in strong alignment with USG goals for water will remain very limited by relying solely on voluntary, often ad-hoc technical support by US scientists and engineers
- Such investment would be targeted at significant opportunities for capacity building and the practical application of water technologies to improve the lives of people in developing and emerging nations, particularly in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Examples of areas that the funding could be focused include:
 1. Education Fellowships to UNESCO-IHE
 2. The Establishment of UNESCO Chairs at US Universities
 3. Technology Fellows
 4. Operating Budget for the US National IHP Committee

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 3

International Hydrological Program

- Acknowledge the benefits of the 27 June Water Forum and the December Irvine meeting to engage and dialogue with the U.S. and Global water science and policy community to help define and focus U.S. responses to the world's water problems

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 4

International Hydrological Program

- Endeavor to run and be elected for the Intergovernmental Council of the IHP Committee during the 35th UNESCO General Conference

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 5

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

- Elevate Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) as a core program of IOC; support GOOS Implementation Plan and establishment of Joint IOC-WMO Technical Commission on Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) Observing Program Support Center
- Pursue a more cohesive national focus on oceans observations to enhance U.S. influence at IOC and cooperation with other GOOS systems.
- Encourage IOC to adopt data standards that promote climate-quality observations to enhance the value of GOOS for climate change studies and adaptation strategies.

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 6

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

- Encourage IOC to focus capacity building efforts on coastal ocean observation systems and applications, an area of interest to developing countries.

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 7

International Oceanographic Commission

- Provide opportunities for U.S. National Committee for IOC to comment on papers regarding UNESCO's climate change strategy.

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 8

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

- Focus IOC's 50th Anniversary efforts on raising public appreciation and understanding of ocean phenomena as they relate to societal issues such as recreation, human health, and climate.

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 9

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

- Recruit highly competitive American citizens to apply to serve as the next Executive Secretary of IOC

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 10

- U.S. government should actively pursue consideration of full engagement with the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere program

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 11

Capacity Building

- That the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO urge the USG to register its continued grave disappointment in the lack of progress in the “Creation of a Cross-Sectoral Program in Technical Capacity Building” specifically in the areas of water, engineering, and technology.

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 12

Capacity Building

- USG support the UNESCO Secretariat in realizing the technical capacity building goals of the approved resolution (EB decision 171 EX/64), which included the establishment of the “new unit”

Natural Sciences and Engineering Committee

Recommendation 13

Review of Major Programs II and III

- Understanding that UNESCO has initiated an internal task force to implement many of the program review recommendations, the Commission recommends that the task force engage the original Review Committee in the process and that UNESCO provide periodic reports on their progress

Social and Human Sciences Committee

Recommendation 1

- USG should cooperate with the UNESCO SHS sector for the development and training of national bioethics committees in countries requesting UNESCO assistance by taking advantage of the expertise of the National Commission and other relevant institutions

Social and Human Sciences Committee

Recommendation 2

- USG should express its expectation that COMEST and other Category V advisory committees should, in the interest of transparency and accountability, adhere to existing rules permitting Member State representatives to attend and observe all of their meetings

Social and Human Sciences Committee

Recommendation 3

- USG supports UNESCO's promotion and dissemination of the principles set out in the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights; however, it should continue to object to efforts by the UNESCO Secretariat or UNESCO advisory committees to directly or indirectly interpret the Declaration's provisions

Social and Human Sciences Committee

Recommendation 4

- USG should insist that UNESCO not participate, directly or indirectly, in the development or implementation of the Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City or any other human rights instrument, agreement or plan not expressly negotiated and approved by UNESCO Member States

Culture Committee

Recommendation 1

- Members of the U.S. National Commission should actively support the search for a strong U.S. candidate for the vacant D1 management position at the World Heritage Center.

Culture Committee

Recommendation 2

- The USG should do everything possible to maintain the credibility of the World Heritage program, whose main purpose is to be vigilant in the maintaining and monitoring of continuing outstanding universal value of monuments and sites which are the common heritage of mankind.

Culture Committee

Recommendation 3

- The USG should consider its position on the Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention.

Culture Committee

Observation 1

- The U.S. Cultural Property Advisory Committee (CPAC) process should maintain adequate transparency, and the advice given by CPAC implement all the obligations of the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property and its U.S. implementing statute.

Committee

Observation 2

- U.S. implementation of the multinational requirements of both the CPAC Convention and its implementing statute should reflect the balance of considerations in those documents.

Culture Committee

Recommendation 4

- The USG should encourage UNESCO to study the potential of improved and expanded legal markets in reducing looting and theft, and illegal markets.

Culture Committee

Recommendation 5

- UNESCO should encourage source nations to protect antiquities and sites within their territories and promote capacity building to this end.

Culture Committee

Recommendation 6

- UNESCO should study alternatives such as long-term loans and exchanges (e.g. ten years or more), for the sharing of cultural property among all nations without transfer of ownership.
- Possible exchanges might include joint participation in archeological projects, training and infrastructure support.

Culture Committee

Recommendation 7

- UNESCO, building on and maintaining momentum from recent activities, should underscore the role of sustainable tourism as an important tool in heritage conservation. Among the good examples of best practices in this area is Mesa Verde, New Mexico.
- The Commission should encourage the Director General to enhance staffing and provide funding for a World Heritage Center sustainable tourism section.
- UNESCO and its Member States should encourage adequate support for the World Heritage Center's advisory bodies in supporting sustainable tourism best practices
- UNESCO should undertake a study of the impact of tourism on cultural and natural heritage, and develop and compile guidelines on best practices to be disseminated in an organized compendium.
- UNESCO should help generate support for funding of the planned World Heritage sustainable tourism conference.
- UNESCO should pay attention to the needs and wishes of localities and encourage their collaboration in enhancing sites, building capacity, and mitigating possible damages from tourism.

Culture Committee

Recommendation 8

In support of the Preserve America Summit recommendations for the enhanced U.S. participation in the global preservation community, the Commission should encourage enhanced U.S. support -- private and public.

Culture Committee

Recommendation 9

- UNESCO should strengthen the sharing of expertise with developing country museums in ways that build their capacities and enhance partnerships among museums.

Culture Committee

Recommendation 10

- UNESCO should build on its historic role in the analysis, discussion, publication, and promotion of research on cultural policies and the methods of developing such policies.

Communications and Information Committee

Recommendation 1

- U.S. National Commission for UNESCO should create a sub-committee that will review and revise the International Program for the Development of Communication's Official Project Form and instructions. Particular attention should be paid to the management sustainability and evaluation of each project.
- The National Commission's IPDC program recommendations will be shared with the U.S. expert to the Bureau of the IPDC, as the expert works with the IPDC Chair to endeavor to obtain adoption of favorable programs.
- The U.S. should suggest after the revision of the Official Project Form, that UNESCO staff be appropriately trained in its usage and implementation.

Communication and Information

Recommendation 2

- As the IPDC is a UNESCO program, it should not be assessed an overhead fee for the funding of programs
- If an overhead cost is unavoidable, the overhead percent assessed on the IPDC should be applied to that program

Communications and Information

Recommendation 3

- The U.S. should continue to monitor and maintain an appropriate role for UNESCO regarding the World Summit on the Information Society's main lines of action for which UNESCO is responsible

Communications and Information Committee

Recommendation 4

- The U.S. should continue to encourage UNESCO's support for the development and implementation of the World Digital Library.

Communications and Information Committee

Recommendation 5

- The U.S. should encourage UNESCO to support without reservation the unimpeded use of the Internet as a means to ensure freedom of the press and the free flow of information

Communications and Information Committee

Recommendation 6

- The U.S. should encourage UNESCO to push for full implementation of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on this the 60th Anniversary of its adoption

Communications and Information Committee

Recommendation 7

- As UNESCO addresses the issue of safety of journalists, the U.S. should encourage UNESCO to take into account all factors that impede a journalist's ability to carry out his/her vital watchdog role that is the foundation for a free society.

The UNESCO Draft Program and Budget 2010-2011: Region I NatCom Consultations

Recommendation 1

- All Program Priorities should be specific, providing a clear link to targeting progress in programs, and including specific goals and metrics.
- There should be a clear link between the C/3 and a revised C/5.

The UNESCO Draft Program and Budget 2010-2011: Region I NatCom Consultations

Recommendation 2

- Education Biennial Sectoral Priority 2:
Fostering literacy and quality education for all at all levels and through both formal and non-formal lifelong learning, with particular emphasis on Africa, gender equality, youth, LDCs and SIDS, as well as the most vulnerable segments of society, including indigenous peoples, **civic education** and education for sustainable development.

Note: Bold indicates NatCom edits to original UNESCO document



United States
National Commission for UNESCO

The UNESCO Draft Program and Budget 2010-2011: Region I NatCom Consultations

Recommendation 3

- Education MLA 3: Promote policy dialogue, research, **recommend best practices**.
- Education MLA 4: Provide capacity development and technical support to assist **public and private sector** efforts in achieving the Dakar goals.

Note: Bold indicates NatCom edits to original UNESCO document



The UNESCO Draft Program and Budget 2010-2011: Region I NatCom Consultations

Recommendation 4

- Natural Science Biennial Sectoral Priority 1: Promoting technical capacity-building and *technology transfer* for the sound management of natural resources, *including safe and adequate sources of drinking water, sustainable economic development,* and disaster preparedness and mitigation.

Note: Bold indicates NatCom edits to original UNESCO document

The UNESCO Draft Program and Budget 2010-2011: Region I NatCom Consultations

Recommendation 5

- Natural Science MLA 1: Fostering policies, technical capacity-building, research, networking, education and international cooperation in the fields of **water resources, including drinking water**, and ecological and earth sciences for enhancing societal responses.

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The UNESCO Draft Program and Budget 2010-2011: Region I NatCom Consultations

Recommendation 6

- Social & Human Science Biennial Sectoral Priority 1: Promoting *existing and universally agreed upon* principles, practices, and ethical norms relevant for scientific, technological and social development.
- Social & Human Science Biennial Sectoral Priority 2: *Provide assistance to Member States in* strengthening the national and regional research systems in order to provide policy-oriented research on social and ethical issues.
- Social & Human Science Biennial Sectoral Priority 3: *Promoting* [deleted contributing] a dialogue among civilizations and cultures and a culture of peace through philosophy, the social and human sciences, good governance, *the rule of law*, the promotion of human rights, and the fight against discrimination.

Note: Bold and brackets indicate NatCom edits to original UNESCO document



United States
National Commission for UNESCO

The UNESCO Draft Program and Budget 2010-2011: Region I NatCom Consultations Recommendation 7

- Social & Human Science MLA 1: Promoting *existing and internationally agreed upon principles of* ethics *relating to* science and technology with an emphasis on bioethics.
- Social & Human Science MLA 2: *Promoting* [deleted enhancing] research-policy linkages in the field of social *science* [deleted development] and policies relating to physical education and sports.

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United States
National Commission for UNESCO

The UNESCO Draft Program and Budget 2010-2011: Region I NatCom Consultations

Recommendation 8

- Culture MLA 3: Enhancing the protection of cultural objects, [delete the fight] *protection* against illicit trafficking in them, *appropriate interchange of cultural property among peoples and states*, and the development of museums, *particularly building museum-related capacity* in developing countries.

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United States
National Commission for UNESCO

The UNESCO Draft Program and Budget 2010-2011: Region I NatCom Consultations

Recommendation 9

- Communication & Information MLA 1: Promoting [deleted an enabling environment] freedom of expression, *freedom of the press*, freedom of information, and *freedom of association, including the implementation of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.*
- Communication & Information MLA 2: Fostering universal access to information and the development of *information-related infrastructure with due regard to intellectual property rights.*
- Communication & Information MLA 4: Strengthening the role of communication and information in fostering mutual understanding, peace and reconciliation, *safety for the press*, particularly in conflict and post-conflict areas.

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United States
National Commission for UNESCO

The UNESCO Draft Program and Budget 2010-2011: Region I NatCom Consultations

Recommendation 10

- Intersectoral Platforms:
 - A) Science *and technology* education
 - C) *Fostering sustainable development*
[delete education for]
 - H) *Fostering* [deleted contributing to]
the dialogue among civilizations and
cultures and a culture of peace.

Note: Bold and brackets indicate NatCom edits to original UNESCO document



United States
National Commission for UNESCO

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Observation 1

- The U.S. National Commission for UNESCO serves as a valuable resource to the U.S.G and the Permanent Delegation in particular

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Observation 2

- The composition, dedication, and capabilities represented in the inaugural U.S. National Commission has been essential in our successful reengagement with UNESCO.

The current Commissioners will continue to be a resource, offering continuity during Administration transition.

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Observation 3

- In order to always provide the greatest benefit to the U.S. government, Commission members are invited to provide recommendations to the Department of State on the National Commission's nature, structure, and operation

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Observation 4

The Commission can serve as a resource through:

- Increased engagement on formation of delegations
- Serving as a large recruiting agency or network for UNESCO vacancies
- Sharing information and resources

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Recommendation 1

- Maintain an integrated, multi-disciplined, non-siloed, volunteer membership of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO that supports cross-disciplinary interaction

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Recommendation 2

- The composition of the Commission should continue to reflect the issues and challenges UNESCO is taking on, as well as the priorities of the U.S. government

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Recommendation 3

- Reappointments of members should take into consideration involvement, contribution, and active working support to the Commission

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Recommendation 4

- Using Subcommittees is an effective mechanism to focus on specific topics, and to blend interaction between committees and disciplines
- Non-member Advisors, who can be appointed by the Exec Director of the National Commission, should be continued to be used as a resource for Subcommittees

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Recommendation 5

- Always seek Commissioners who care about the U.S.'s role in UNESCO and its participation
- The composition of the U.S. National Commission should not be strictly tied to any specific mathematical formula, within legal constraints

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Recommendation 6

- Consider establishing an orientation for new members to help ensure continuity and productive membership

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Recommendation 7

- Topics to consider for future membership
 - Youth groups/Student representatives
 - Business management
 - Program evaluation
 - International relief (as related to UNESCO mandate)
 - Grassroots, local expertise
 - Education research
 - Environmental protection (as related to U.S. National Committee for the IHP)

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Recommendation 8

- The Commission benefits from having State and Local membership on the Commission
- While the Commission is not required to be at its capacity of 100 members, the Department of State has had difficulty filling positions designated for State and Local individuals.
- Therefore, Commission members could assist with recommendations of state and local individuals

Future Composition of the National Commission and Commission Best Practices

Recommendation 9

- As a best management practice, the Commission members should receive feedback on the status of previous recommendations prior to the Annual Meeting